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Issue no 211

Decision day for future of our youth centres

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

CONTROVERSIAL plans to shut two of the district's youth centres are to be discussed by Dover councillors today (Wednesday) as the consultation draws to a close.

Under proposals by Kent County Council, a new "hub" would be opened at Archers Court Youth Centre to cater for the district, with outreach workers to replace Linwood, in Deal, and Aylesham centres.

KCC is also looking to commission more services from the voluntary sector.

Cabinet member for customer and communities at KCC, Mike Hill, called it a transformation of Kent's youth service.

"In order to take the opportunities presented to us by the government's Localism Bill and make necessary savings we must think differently about how we deliver youth work for future generations; building on discussions with young people," he said.

The proposals have come under fire by the district's residents and campaigners protested in Maidstone last week against the changes. Tory-led Dover District Council has also expressed its opposition.

Dover district and KCC Labour councillor Gordon Cowan led campaigners to push KCC to abandon the downgrading of the youth centres. Under plans, each district will have its own "hub".



National Trust pick cliffs for campaign

FULL STORY – SEE BELOW

RECREATION

Putting our best foot forward for Festival of Walking event

DOVER has played host to the launch of the National Trust's nationwide Festival of Walking.

Director general of the charity, Dame Fiona Reynolds, kick-started the scheme on Sunday with a two-mile ramble from Langdon Cliffs to the South Foreland Lighthouse.

Dr Katie Tryon, from festival sponsor PruHealth, joined her on the walk along the iconic White Cliffs.

A National Trust spokeswoman said: "We chose the White Cliffs to launch the walking festivities. They are one of this country's most spectacular natural features and have been a symbol of hope and freedom for centuries."

The landmark forms part of the National Trust's first ever walking festival which will see more than 1,000 events take place across gardens, countryside and coastline in England, Wales and Northern Ireland from October 22-30.

The aim is to get people outdoors and closer to nature.

The spokeswoman said: "The White Cliffs are part of the 630 acres of countryside and 701 miles of coast that we care for. And our outdoors places are open for you to come and enjoy, all year round.

"So dust off your walking boots, welly boots, trainers or even your flip flops and come and join us for a walk – long or short – this October half-term."

National Trust has outlined hundreds of walks, from easy 0-3 mile ambles to 10 miles treks for avid ramblers.

For information go to www.nationaltrust.org.uk/walkingfestival.

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TELEVISION

Get set for the digital tune-in

ACTION with Communities in Rural Kent is bringing together an army of charities and volunteers to help residents make the digital switchover. The whole of the Dover district will switch to digital TV in June 2012, with outreach help from the organisation. For information www.ruralkent.org.uk.

LITERATURE

Duo in short story final

TWO Dover women were amongst the finalists at Folkestone's HG Wells festival. Karol Steele and Rachel White were shortlisted in the festival's short story competition. Miss White, 22, was crowned joint winner of the junior writers' category. Prizes were awarded by Sir Peter Sissons.

MEETINGS

Make your voice heard

HOUSEHOLDS are being reminded to come along and vote for their favourite community projects at the You Decide meetings.
Dover West meeting is on Saturday, October 29, at St Margaret's Village Hall from 10am and Dover North from 2pm.



Pictured above: Dover Exhibition Conference Hall

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Organised by ARCHANT KOS MEDIA

Dover Exhibition Centre, Kent, Wednesday October 26th 2011

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CELEBRITY

Mother of star Orlando takes centre stage with help from her little friends

By Steve Knight
steve.knight@archant.co.uk

IT'S NOT every day the mum of an A-list Hollywood actor pops into school to talk to a class of star-struck pupils.

It's even less likely that she should come armed with a collection of stick insects, caterpillars and other creepy-crawlies other parents might shy away from.

But that's exactly what happened when Sonia Copeland Bloom – mother of Three Musketeers heartthrob Orlando Bloom – returned to her son's old school of St Edmund's, Canterbury, to give a talk about the importance of protecting nature's smallest creatures.

"There are huge numbers of children who go out into the world knowing nothing about nature because they're too tied up in their mobile phones and computer games," she said.

"We're in danger of forgetting the importance of being outside and knowing about insects, but they received a lovely reaction from the pupils at St Edmund's. They were fascinated by them, if not a little worried about some of the bigger ones, so it was a very rewarding experience."

Ms Copeland Bloom has written a series of children's books about insects entitled Tales and Truths About Garden Minibeasts, which features such characters as Basil the Beetle and Eddie the Earthworm.





CLASS ACT: Sonia Copeland Bloom, mum of Orlando Bloom (right), with the pupils from St Edmund's

The former University of Kent information officer revealed she had also written a book especially for her nine-month-old grandson Flynn, whose mother is Orlando Bloom's Australian model wife Miranda Kerr.

Lord of the Rings and Pirates of the Caribbean star Bloom, 34, returned to Canterbury in July last year when he was gifted an honorary degree from the University of Kent.

"Orlando's been very busy in Los Angeles and most recently in New Zealand, where he's been filming The Hobbit with Peter Jackson," said Ms Copeland Bloom.

"He certainly has a lot of affection for Canterbury and when he's returned in the past he's visited all the places he knew so well growing up.

"He does keep in touch with a lot of the friends he had at St Edmund's, as they are the most important to him because they knew him before he was famous and so he treasures them.

"It's very difficult not seeing him very often, especially now he's given me a beautiful, gorgeous grandson. But we are lucky today having emails and iPhones, which are fantastic.

"I've written a book for Flynn and have told Orlando I'm happy to go and see them at the drop of a hat. I don't want Flynn to grow up without some influence and a lot of affection from his granny."

■ **Go to www.yourcanterbury.co.uk for all the latest news and sports headlines.**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ice truckers on standby

KENT County Council says its winter service fleet is on standby to begin salting roads if icy conditions hit.

More than 60 salting lorries will be used to keep key parts of the road network open.

KCC's Cllr Bryan Sweetland, said: "The past two years have seen some of the harshest winter weather for three decades and we are well-prepared for similar weather this year." Some 180 farmers are on standby to clear dedicated routes.

Towers face demolition

THE demolition of Richborough's iconic cooling towers and chimney is expected to take place at the beginning of next year.

Despite plans for them to be torn down by the end of December, BFL Management Ltd, commissioned by owner Richborough A Ltd to manage the site, said it would not be until 2012.

A planning application has now been submitted to Thanet District Council to remove the chimney and towers, built around 60 years ago.

MP's Boris Island plea

ROCHESTER and Strood Tory MP Mark Reckless has asked for assurances an airport will not be built in the Thames Estuary.

He has asked new transport secretary Justine Greening to confirm the Government will still not support such a scheme. He said: "I know residents have been sick of hearing rumours about a potential 'Boris Island' or similar, and I want the record set straight for my constituents once and for all."

PROPERTY REPORT

Kent in strong position to weather storm, claims new property report

KENT'S property market is in a positive position compared to neighbouring counties, despite a tough economic year.

That was the conclusion of the 20th Kent Property Market Report, which revealed the county had seen a minor overall improvement with positive changes that could unlock potential investment.

Despite the major knock of Pfizer withdrawing from Sandwich and poor financial and business growth in some areas of the county, the opening of Turner Contemporary in Margate and the Marlowe in Canterbury were both highlighted as encouraging factors.

Enterprise Zone status at the new Sandwich Discovery Park was also outlined as a positive sign, with around 1,000 jobs expected to be created by the end of 2012.

The report, written by Kent County Council and property consultant Cluttons, stated that high-speed rail services and other infrastructure projects, such as the East Kent Access road, meant companies were finding Kent an attractive proposition.

According to the document, the number of businesses looking to locate to the area remained "healthy".



MARKET: Locate in Kent's chief executive Paul Wookey, and Alison Owen of Cluttons

Chief executive of Locate in Kent, Paul Wookey, said the report showed the county was well placed to lead the recovery in the South East.

"I wouldn't want to give the impression that Kent is immune from problems with the economy," he said.

"But I'm very positive in terms of the types of people we're talking to, the potential investors for example.

"They see Kent as being an exciting place for the future. I'm very positive that when the economy shows improvement, we'll be in a much better position than other parts of the UK and Europe. It's important we don't lose sight of that."

He added: "Looking back over the major infrastructure investments over the 20 years of the Kent Property Market Report, it's clear to see that those initiatives have put us in a strong position to weather the current climate and grow when the time is right."

Leader of KCC Cllr Paul Carter admitted the last year had been "ghastly" in terms of the economic situation.

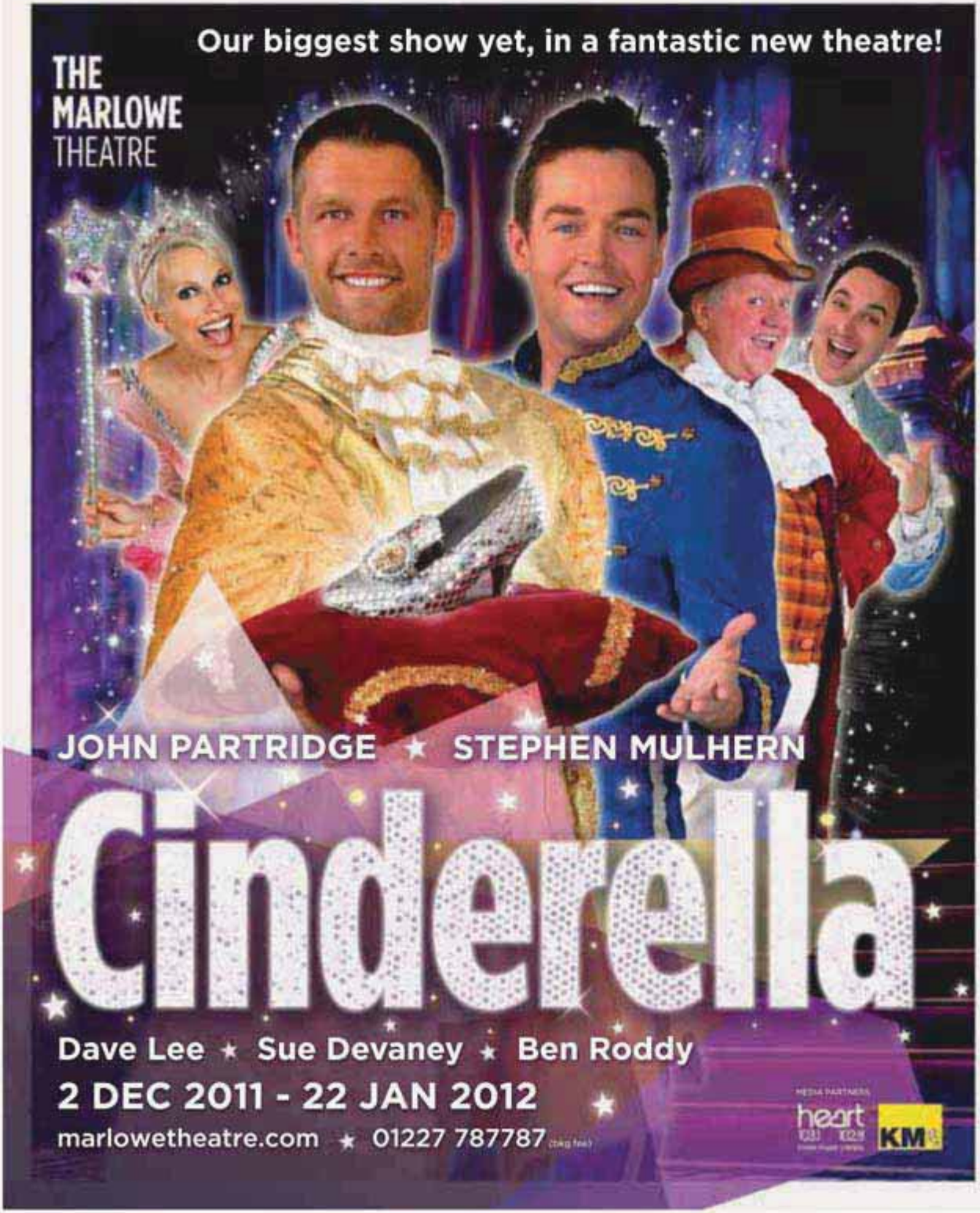
"These are tough economic times and we need to do all we can to get the Kent economy moving faster.

"We have the housing and development sites, but housing completions have fallen in Kent and across the country.

"We need to overcome obstacles that are stopping housing being built and do all we can to generate new business growth and new local jobs. The Kent property market story over the last 20 years is a good one. In tough economic times, we must ensure Kent remains the place to do business."

■ **See the full report at www.kentpropertymarket.com.**

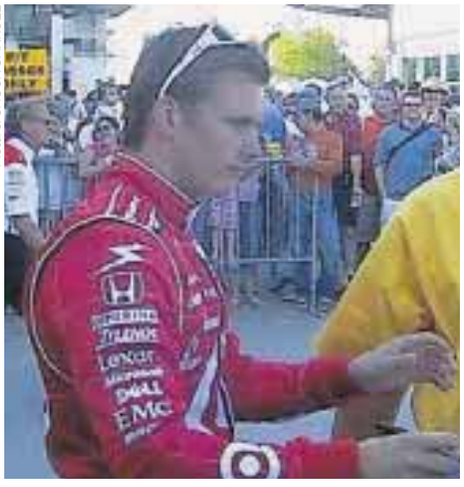



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SPORT

From Brands and Buckmore, tragic hero Wheldon's death leaves a scar

By David Pritchard
david.pritchard@archant.co.uk


Picture: CHUCK CARROLL


Picture: PAUL WEBB

THE world of motorsport was in mourning this week following the death of IndyCar driver Dan Wheldon and the loss was keenly felt in Kent – whose circuits played a key role in his development.

The two-time Indy 500 winner died from injuries sustained when his car took off at more than 200 miles per hour during a 15-car pile-up and landed in safety fencing at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

Also in the race was Sevenoaks driver Mike Conway, who had spent three years racing alongside Wheldon in IndyCar.

He survived a similar high-speed crash at the Indy 500 last year, and was devastated by the tragic news.

"I would like to express my deepest sympathy to Dan's family, who are in my thoughts," he said. "Having raced against Dan for many years, I respected him greatly as a driver as well as a friend, and [Sunday's] tragic accident is a huge loss to motorsport."

Aged only 33, the Buckinghamshire-born driver had forged a hugely successful career in the United States after finding his path to success blocked by a lack of sponsorship in Britain.

A chunk of his early development had been made in Kent. Starting out in karting he was a regular competitor at Buckmore Park, the track between Maidstone and Chatham which also hosted Formula One world champions Lewis Hamilton and Jenson Button in their formative years.

He progressed through the junior ranks and in his early 20s supplemented his income by becoming an instructor at the Brands Hatch racing school from 1996 to 1998.

Among his colleagues, which also included Red Bull driver Mark Webber, was Pembury's Shaun Hollamby, who runs British Touring Car Championship team AmD Milltek.

He said: "Dan was a real hotshot in Formula Ford in those days. He was a typical cocky 21-year-old racing driver, which is why he got as far as he did. He was a good guy with a great sense of humour and he was determined to get in among it.

He interacted with the fans so well, which is partly why he was so popular in the States.

"It was a big decision to go to the US to seek his fame and fortune because nobody had heard of him and his achievements over here counted for little, but he made it work.

"!To win the Indy 500 twice is huge, there isn't a bigger race you can put on your CV.

"Motorsport is dangerous, one day you can be lucky and the next it can run out. It's such a shame."

FRIENDS: From left, Dan Wheldon's death has saddened Sevenoaks' Mike Conway

CRIME

Two arrested after train hits car abandoned on rail track

TRANSPORT chaos was caused this week when a train hit a car at a level crossing in Ramsgate.

The car was hit by the 4.50am Ramsgate-London Charing Cross service at Cliffsend on Wednesday morning.

The abandoned Vauxhall Astra was pushed yards down the track and became trapped under the front of the train. The incident meant specialist lifting equipment had to be brought in by Network Rail to remove the vehicle.

The line between Ramsgate and Ashford was closed until 4pm and other services were re-routed via Canterbury.

A spokesman for Southeastern said: "It was a distressing incident for everyone on the train. It was removed to the depot for repair and we had to check any damage to the track.

"We were able to run services normally in the evening but there was disruption for people's journeys because trains end up in different areas. Mainline ticket holders were able to use high-speed services throughout the day."

British Transport Police arrested two people in connection with the incident.

A police spokesman said: "The train remained upright on the tracks and none of the four passengers or staff onboard were injured.

"Kent Fire and Rescue Service and the South East Coast Ambulance Service also attended.

"An investigation has been launched to establish the circumstances surrounding the incident, including how the car came to be on the crossing."

Following initial enquiries, a man and a woman, both aged 40 and from Cliffsend, were arrested on suspicion of obstruction and being in charge of a vehicle while unfit through drink or drugs. The pair have been released on bail until December 15.

The collision disrupted many travellers' journeys throughout the day.

The Southeastern spokesman added: "These sorts of incidents are actually rare. It was incredibly frustrating for us and our passengers.

"These incidents impact on everyone, our services, employers whose staff can't get to work, and people making day trips to London.

"We were able to run some services so those who needed to travel were still able to, but undoubtedly it would have taken them longer."

■ **See www.yourthanet.co.uk for more news.**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Dad and son on trial

A FATHER and son charged in connection with a shooting in Greenhithe have appeared in court.

Billy Smith, 42, of Hillhouse Road, Stone, and Billy Nelson Smith, 24, of Moorhen Walk, Greenhithe, were arrested after a 50-year-old man was shot in the head and stomach on August 1.

The father pleaded guilty to wounding and being prohibited from possessing a firearm. His son pleaded guilty to common assault on a 17-year-old man in connection with a linked incident.

John Lewis green light

COUNCIL chiefs have given the green light for a huge new John Lewis store to be built in Ashford.

Borough council planning officers gave the nod to build a 5,390 sq m John Lewis at Home store just off junction nine of the M20.

The retail giant will invest £7 million into the development and create 160 new jobs at the site in Fougeres Way, south of The Warren.

The new store will be spread over two levels.

Hit and run of girl, 8

A MOTORIST drove off after hitting an eight-year-old girl as she stepped onto a zebra crossing in Wincheap, Canterbury.

She suffered bruising and swelling following the incident by Morrisons at 5pm on October 17. PC James Murrell said: "The car was black, possibly a Ford, possibly an 04 registration. The male driver is described as large build, aged 45-50, white or grey beard, with a white or grey top."

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TRANSPORT

Anniversary hits the road

CROSSKEYS Coaches is commemorating its 40th year of business with the launch of a new website www.crosskeys.uk.com.

The company started in Hythe, with a couple of minibuses, but is now based in Folkestone. It has a fleet of 18 coaches varying in size from a 16-seat minibus to three 70-seat vehicles. The firm's newest acquisition is a 49 seat Setra.

At Business Week Live the company will be showing off some of its fleet.

Alan Johnson, managing director said: "It's essential to keep up to date with technology, as well as with the needs of our customers. We hope the new website and news page helps us achieve this."

Business Week Live

Big opening as Business Week Live puts China in your hands

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

BUSINESS Week Live will give Kent companies the chance to see how they can break into the world's fastest growing large economy – China.

Leading exhibitor Kent Invicta Chamber has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding to deliver a new international trade service in the county, to help exporters gain greater insight and access to markets.

LinkToChina, is a service designed to facilitate practical links with the officially designated China Council for the Promotion of International Trade.

The project is designed to help projects involving export, import, manufacturing, finance, technology co-operation, service industries, advanced engineering, low-carbon/clean fuel economy, and inward investment.

It will provide fast-track business matchmaking opportunities between Kent and China and facilitate business partnership building for trade and investment cooperation.

Jo James, chief executive of Kent Invicta, which has taken stand 23 for the show at Dover Exhibition Centre, on Wednesday, October 26, said: "We are delighted to be in a position to offer this service on behalf of the British Chambers of Commerce to businesses in Kent.

"The chamber is committed to supporting exporters in the county and already provides a range of international services, from export documentation to training programmes.

"Up to now our activities have mainly been focused around developing trade within the European markets and we are delighted to be part of this exciting programme and be in a position to assist Kent companies explore potential new lucrative markets further afield."







OPEN THE UP: Olga D'Silva (left) and Jo James are keen for Kent to make the most of the Lujiazui financial district in Shanghai (top)

Olga D'Silva will be speaking on behalf of the Institute of Directors at Business Week Live, and will be continuing with the international theme.

She said: "The Institute of Directors Kent is prolific in the different types of business events it holds in the county, and you don't have to be a member to join in. IoD Kent puts on some 70 events a year, and I recommend you take a look at the website to see what's on offer and how IoD Kent can help support you in business, at www.iod.com/kent

"For me, successful business is about developing and nurturing successful business relationships, and of course this becomes a challenge when the international dimension is factored in.

"This is one reason why in March, 2010, together with the events and marketing committee and with the help and support of our indefatigable branch manager, Debbie Cameron, I helped to set up IoD Kent's International Business Forum. Its raison d'être is to help and support companies who are taking their first steps in international trading, as well as those already doing so, but who wish to improve existing international markets or explore new ones. "

She continued: "Good international trading must always be underpinned by sound financing, so IoD Kent are very pleased that HSBC sponsor the International Business Forum.

"Previous topics for IoD Kent's International Business Forum have been diverse, country topics include France, Belgium and China and we have explored finding new customers overseas, generating international sales leads and business opportunities, exporting, identifying and maximising international trade show opportunities, the economic outlook and minimising foreign exchange risk."

■ **Go to www.businessweeklive.co.uk to book your free tickets for Business Week Live, and follow us on Twitter at @BusinessWkLive.**





INSURANCE

Event gives a face to the man behind the business

THE opportunity of getting to know the person behind the company is one aspect of the up-coming Business Week Live event which is of particular interest to commercial insurance specialist Simon Hammond.

The owner of The Hammond Consultancy, based in Ashford, is getting ready to celebrate 10 years in business on January 1, 2012.

He said: "The event is a good opportunity to meet the person behind the business, rather than just communicating via email or on the telephone.

"It's a chance to get to know the real decision-makers. This is something I consider important in building a successful relationship."

The consultancy works mainly with small to medium-sized enterprises and can tailor all insurance provision to a company's specific needs – however unusual they may sometimes be.

"Every business is different," said Mr Hammond. "Even if you are talking to two woodworkers they will not have the same requirements. I look forward to welcoming my fellow attendees at stand 54."

Mr Hammond has more than 20 years' experience in the insurance industry and established The Hammond Consultancy after identifying what he saw as a gap in the market – service.

He says the independent company offers the most competitive and suitable product after a thorough review of the market.

TRAVELLERS

‘No surprise’ if the Dale Farm travellers point their caravans this way

By Ed Hill
ed.hill@archant.co.uk

TRAVELLERS from Dale Farm are likely to head to the county according to a leading gypsy campaigner – even though there are no vacant pitches in Kent.

Jo Jones from the Gypsy Council in Kent said: “They could go anywhere and I would not be surprised if they came to here.”

The authorities began the eviction process on Wednesday, sending riot police onto the site in Basildon, Essex.

Mr Jones said any travellers who came to Kent would inevitably end up being moved on from the side of the road as there were no designated spaces available at traveller sites in the county.

He said: “Kent County Council has the money to find places but they have not done anything with it. There are no votes in gypsy sites and that is the problem.”

Mr Jones said the situation would only get worse because of the lack of action from local politicians.

“They use us as a political punch-bag to gain votes.

“They have to identify land that will be suitable for gypsies whether it is private or public.

“As soon as they do that the better it will be. They have been asked to do this since 1994 but local councils have just flaunted that policy,” he said.

Mr Jones argued large sites like Dale Farm inevitably led to problems between the travelling community and residents living nearby.

He said: “They say smaller sites are not cost affective. That may be true in the short term but in the long term if you had small family run sites dotted around the place we would integrate much better with the local community.

“Our children would get a better education and the condition of the sites would be better. When you force people together in big sites, of course it is going to create problems.”

He said councils around the country had been preparing for the day when the Dale Farm eviction would begin.

He said: “Everywhere within 100 miles of Dale Farm will have been blocked off. In Bedfordshire they have been digging trenches around parks knowing this day will come.”

A Kent County Council spokesman said: “As yet, we have not been asked by Basildon Council to take travellers from the site. Families or individual travellers can apply for pitches in Kent, but the county council sites currently have no vacancies.”

Picture: SELENA SHERIDAN



DALE FARM: There have been violent scenes during the eviction

DEVELOPMENT

Tesco’s plans facing delays

PLANS for a Tesco supermarket by Margate seafront will not be decided until December. Thanet council’s planning committee was to make a decision on Wednesday, but deferred it until the next full council meeting. The development behind Arlington House has been opposed over the impact of traffic and the loss of a car park.

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GAY MARRIAGE

Same-sex marriage not right for all gay Christians says campaigning vicar

By Steve Knight
steve.knight@archant.co.uk

A VICAR speaking up for Kent's gay churchgoers says the Prime Minister should not make assumptions about what same-sex couples want.

Earlier this month David Cameron announced plans to legalise gay marriage, with churches also due to be given permission to host civil ceremonies for the first time.

Some gay rights campaigners have welcomed the controversial development, but the Roman Catholic Church and the Church of England are likely to lodge formal objections during the official consultation next year.

The Reverend Bob Callaghan – leader of the Changing Attitude gay rights group for the Canterbury diocese – said not all same-sex couples will approve either.

"I'm not convinced," he added. "A lot of gay people don't want to get married and a lot of straight people would prefer a civil partnership, we need to have a proper debate and not just assume we know what everyone wants."



MAKE A VOW: Gay marriage is dividing the Church of England

Changing Attitude is a national organisation working for the full inclusion of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people in the life of the Anglican Communion.

The group is relaunching its branches in Canterbury and Gravesend next month in response to the ongoing debates over same-sex marriages and the ordination of gay bishops.

Rev Callaghan, who is also national co-ordinator for campaign group Inclusive Church said he felt the majority of churchgoers had an open mind towards homosexuality.

"Most people are okay about it; it's the people in authority who are scared about sticking their heads above the parapet," he said.

The first Changing Attitude meetings take place from 7.30-9pm on November 9 (Canterbury) and November 23 (Gravesend). Call Rev Callaghan on 07935 374877 for details.

■ **For the latest news go to www.yourcanterbury.co.uk.**

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QUEX BARN THE SECRET GARDEN

EDUCATION

Stampede starts for grammar school places

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

THE race is on to secure a place at one of Kent's grammar schools as youngsters receive their results in the 11-plus exam.

But with just 4,491 places for the 5,308 pupils assessed as suitable for a September, 2012, grammar placement, the competition is fierce.

Families of all Year Six children are being urged to submit their applications for places at both high schools and grammars now.

Up to four preferred schools can be named.

More than 11,000 children who sat the Kent Test in September, including 1,288 from outside of the county, received their results this week, with some 5,308 assessed suitable for grammar school. But many could be left disappointed, with just 4,491 placements available – 817 less than required.

Education chiefs at County Hall said families had just a couple of weeks to submit their application for a secondary school placement.

Kent County Council cabinet member for education, learning and skills, Cllr Mike Whiting, said the decisions families will be making over the next two weeks were important.

"The secondary school years are when children turn into young adults and finding the right school to suit their educational needs will be a parent's primary focus," he said.

"The good news is that Kent has a diverse range of secondary schools where, if a child is prepared to put the effort in, they will reap the rewards.

"For more than a decade, GCSE results in the county have improved year-on-year and young people have been given the knowledge and skills to pursue their careers."



BATTLE FOR A PLACE: There are 817 fewer grammar school places than required to meet the demand of all the pupils who passed the 11-plus exam

Last year, 17 per cent missed out on their first preference of school due to the high numbers applying, but 97 per cent were offered one of the four schools they chose.

Those who did not get one of their four choices were allocated a school place by KCC, which is a statutory duty of the authority.

The council stressed that a grammar school assessment did not guarantee a child would be offered a place at a selective school.

A spokesman said: "If more children apply for places than a school can accommodate the school will use its over-subscription criteria to decide which children it can take."

Families can apply for placements online at www.kent.gov.uk/ola.

The official closing date is Monday, October 31, but due to the half term holiday applications received before 5pm on Friday, November 4, from Kent resident families, will be considered to be on time.

Families will find out which school their children have been allocated on March 1, 2012.

In Medway, parents also have until 4pm on Monday, October 31, to name up to six secondary school choices for September, 2012.

Parents and carers living in Medway should submit applications to the council, even if they include schools outside of the Medway area.

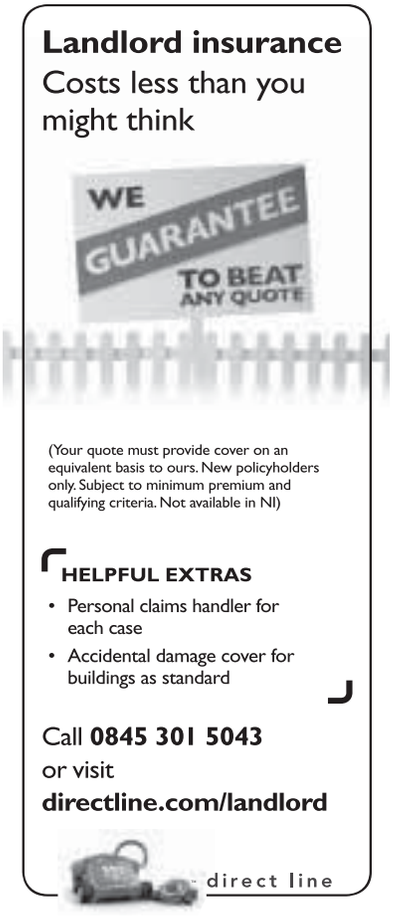
Cabinet member for children's services, Cllr Les Wicks, said: "Making the move onto secondary school can sometimes be a quite daunting time for young people and families, but it is of course also an exciting time full of opportunities.

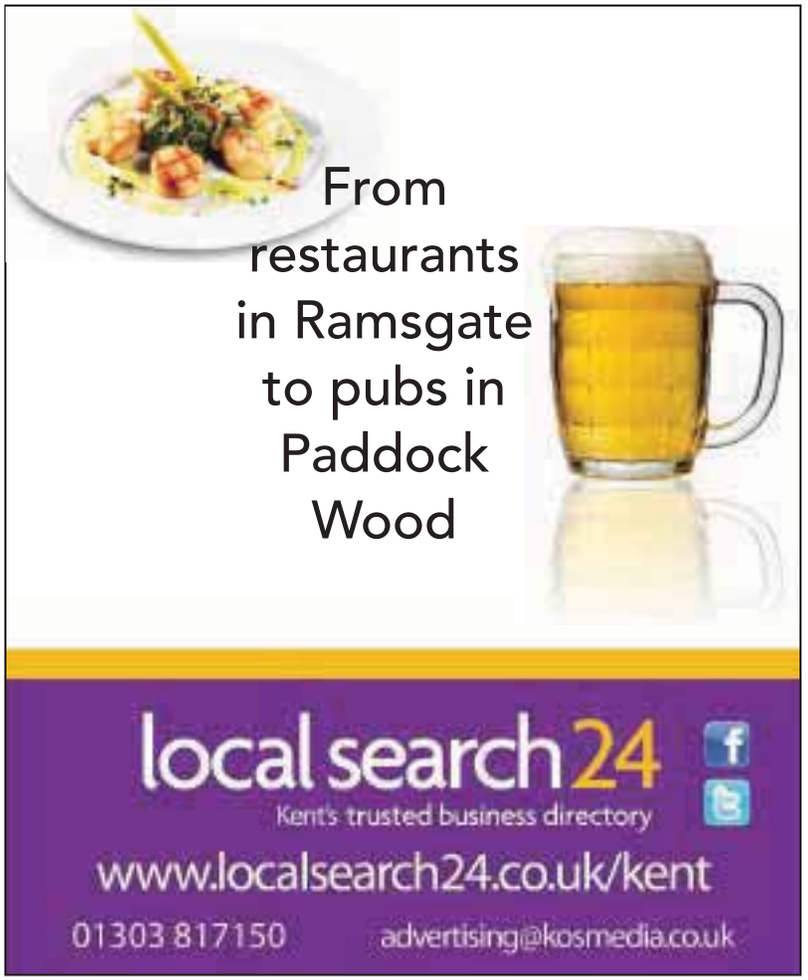
"Here in Medway we have a selection of fantastic secondary schools each offering young people the chance to learn, grow and fulfill their potential."

See www.medway.gov.uk/onlineadmissions to apply.

■ A motion calling for the resignation of Cllr Wicks was put forward at a council meeting on Thursday by Cllr Adam Price, following a series of mistakes, including the 11-plus fiasco at Chatham Grammar School for Boys and the Rainham School for Girls, where the test was being held.

Instructions were missing from the English exam paper causing the exam to overrun by 90 minutes and sparking numerous complaints from parents.









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CHILD CARE

Authorities promise action on missing migrant children

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

COUNTY Hall chiefs have teamed up with police and charities to tackle the ongoing problem of foreign children going missing from care.

It follows the release of figures showing 25 youngsters, aged 12-17, disappeared this year from care agencies, with clear evidence that one had been trafficked by a criminal network.

Others are believed to have deliberately slipped off the radar due to fears of being deported once they reached 18.

While authorities stressed the number of vulnerable, foreign children – who arrived as young unaccompanied asylum seekers through Kent's ports – going missing had dropped significantly, they admitted there was work to be done to ensure human trafficking was stamped out at the source.

Kent County Council cabinet member for specialist children's services Cllr Jenny Whittle, said the key issue was to try and break up trafficking rings. She said there were risks that children from trafficking hot spots such as Vietnam and Algeria could fall back into the hands of crime rings which brought them into Britain.

"We're working very closely with the UK Border Agency to make sure there are fast-track assessments for children when they come though the Port of Dover," she said.

"We've also teamed up with Barnardo's to get special guardians for these children."

Cllr Whittle said although numbers of foreign children missing from care in Kent had dropped – from 115 three years ago, to 76 last year and now 25 – it was still a concern.

"One of the problems is when they reach 17-and-a-half they have to undergo fresh claims for asylum and there is a chance they could be deported," she said.

"It means some of them disappear to the city to find work to avoid being sent back to the horrendous situations they left behind."

Police representatives on the Kent Safeguarding Children's Board have set up a sub-group with KCC to focus on trafficking.

The new figures were released as it was also revealed that almost 700 asylum seeker children were detained at the Port of Dover and at airports, including Heathrow and Gatwick, between May and August this year. This is despite the publication of a new policy by the Government in December, 2010, pledging to end the detention of asylum seeker children. Within this the Government retained the right to only hold a few dozen families each year in border cases.

The Children's Society, which runs schemes in Kent, called on the Home Office to launch an enquiry into the issue.

A UK Border Agency spokesman said: "We have always been clear that we would retain the ability to hold families who have arrived at the border without the right to enter the UK."

■ **For more news and sport see www.yourdover.co.uk.**



GONE: Officials are working closely on trafficking

WILDLIFE

Throw a bird dinner party in your garden

THE RSPB is urging people to help their feathered friends survive the cold winter months by serving them up some garden treats.

In preparation for Feed the Birds Day on October 29, the organisation is calling on the county to prepare menus for garden dinner guests. The RSPB South East says calorie-rich snacks provide of vital energy, and these can be left outside in a feeder or on a dish and topped up from time to time. Try mixed seeds, or unsalted kitchen scraps like grated cheese, rice and bacon rind.

Find out more at www.rspb.org.uk/feedthebirds.

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Halloween
trick or treat!

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The Pamper Lounge will be open 9.30am – 7.30pm on Friday 28th and 9.30am - 6.30pm on Saturday 29th. Book yourself in for a treat by showing your receipt (proof of £20 spend) at the Lounge reception. This will be run on a first come first served basis – so don't delay!

***Terms & Conditions:** Receipt of £20 spent at Westwood Cross on 28th & 29th October 2011 will be required to book a mini treatment. Only one treatment per customer. Treatments are not redeemable for any sum of money and must be used on the weekend stated.



The Trick:
Halloween Crafts Workshop

To keep the children entertained there will be a free Halloween Crafts Workshop on Friday 28th and Saturday 29th October with a Captain Jack Sparrow lookalike performing close-up magic tricks and balloon modelling. The drop-in crafts workshop will include spooky mask and bracelet making, Halloween shape decorating and more. A face painter will be dishing out 'trick' treatments of Halloween themed face painting for just £2.50 a transformation – all of which will be donated to Children in Need.

Please note that the Halloween crafts workshop is free for all children to enjoy and no shopping purchases are required. This will also operate on a first come first served basis.



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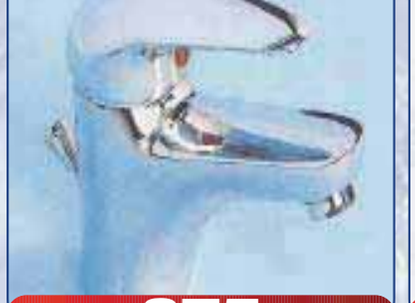
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HERITAGE

Industrial past 'as important as castles and country homes'



By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk





HISTORIC: Sheerness Dockyard (above and right), and No 1 Smithery at Chatham Dockyard are key parts of the landscape valued by the public

ICONIC buildings standing as proud examples of engineering history are the focus of a major study into the condition of England's industrial heritage.

The research project by English Heritage includes a national poll showing that 80 per cent of people think such buildings are just as important as castles and country houses.

But problems for developers raising finance and lack of incentives to restore the buildings means many listed industrial sites are falling into disrepair.

Several Kent sites and buildings have been outlined as 'at risk' by English Heritage; the former working mast house and the boat store at Sheerness Dockyard; the South Darenth conservation area in Sevenoaks; and No 8 Machine Shop at Chatham Maritime.

English Heritage South East planning director Dr Andy Brown said at Sheerness work was being undertaken with owner Peel Ports to find a use for the two buildings.

"In most of these cases, if we can find a use for them they look after themselves," he said.

"We find that when they are not used they start on the slide to ruin. At Sheerness, roof tiles are slipping, which is a big problem because water gets in.

"The boat store is marginally more important than the mast house. There is really interesting space to be used."

Dr Brown said 40 per cent of the country's historical industrial buildings could be reused to house new advanced manufacturing businesses.

"However, 60 per cent won't attract businesses," he said. "Its future could be bleak, but people are passionate about our industrial past and since the 1960s there has been a strong tradition of groups taking on industrial preservation."

English Heritage is offering help to developers, owners and rescue groups.

One Kent heritage site being used as an example of what can be done is No 1 The Smithery at Chatham Historic Dockyard, which was saved from ruin by a partnership of Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust, the Imperial War Museum, and the National Maritime Museum.

For more than 400 years, the dockyard was the Navy's pre-eminent shipbuilding yard. But it fell into disrepair in the 1970s.

In 2003, following the formation of the rescue group, the shell was refurbished and a series of boxes constructed to house museum collections.

Dr Brown said: "This is an example of what can be done with imagination and effort."

Many partners contributed to the £13.5 million project, including the Heritage Lottery Fund which donated £5m.

For more details go to www.english-heritage.org.uk/ihar.

■ **For more news go to www.yourmedway.co.uk.**

NEWSPAPERS

KM pulls of out deal to buy rival titles

NEWSPAPER company the Kent Messenger Group has confirmed it has pulled out of a deal to buy a raft of titles owned by rival Northcliffe Media.

The announcement came as the Office of Fair Trading said it was to refer the acquisition to the Competition Commission after concluding the deal would result in areas of east Kent risking "costlier advertising for businesses and higher cover prices for readers".

But the KM said it would no longer be pursuing the deal for Kent Regional News and Media.

In a statement on its website, KM Group chair Geraldine Allinson said: "We have invested a huge amount of time on this project over the last few months.

"The costs and time required for a full Competition Commission review would be completely unreasonable for a business of our size and for a deal of this scale."

The move would have seen the KM snap up all its rival paid-for titles across East Kent – leaving its only competition as Archant KOS Media, publisher of this newspaper and the highly popular www.kentnews.co.uk.

Amelia Fletcher, the Office of Fair Trading's chief economist and decision maker in the case, said: "Local newspapers face significant challenges, including falling readership and increased competition from other media, most notably, the internet.

"However, this merger would create a monopoly in local weekly newspapers in several local areas across east Kent. UK merger law requires the OFT to be cautious in its 'first phase' review of mergers.

"We require compelling evidence to dismiss concerns that the combination of such close competitors as these might result in substantially higher prices or less choice for advertisers and readers. The evidence in this case did not permit us to clear this transaction."

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COASTAL WEEK

Events to create a buzz up and down our coast

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk



ATTRACTION: Whitstable is one of the many areas set to host events

FOR centuries Kent's coastline has provided inspiration for artists and writers, from Turner to Dickens through to Margate's Tracey Emin.

Now Kent County Council is hoping the next generation will find that same inspiration by basing the theme of this year's Coastal Week on the Creative Coast.

Around 100 family activities – many of them free – are being hosted along the coastline, stretching from Dartford down to Dungeness, during half term week, October 22-30.

Creative workshops, beach art and literary walks are among the events taking place as well as Coastal Week favourites, such as the popular sea safari, where youngsters can travel out onto the Stour and beneath the white cliffs to see Kent's seal colony.

Coastal officer Chris Drake said KCC had teamed up with Turner Contemporary and other local organisations to host the creative-themed week.

"There are going to be lots of events going on up and down the coast; we've got something in every district from Dartford down to Shepway – not just the well-known stretches of coast but places like the north Kent marshes," he said.

"Each year we take on a different theme. Last year it was biodiversity, and this year, with Turner Contemporary as one of our main partners, we decided on a creative theme.

"Last year we had about 6,000 people attend across 100 events; although you can never predict the numbers, we hope it will increase to around 8,000 this year."

Mr Drake said although most of the visitors to Coastal Weeks were residents, tourism board Visit Kent was working to attract people from outside of the county.

"We had people coming from London last year. It's a bit of a showcase for Kent," he added.

To kick-start the launch of Creative Coast this weekend, a number of activities are being held in Whitstable Harbour, including a cartoon workshop where animators will show youngsters how to create sea characters.

There will also be stalls and entertainment on Sunday with local artists displaying and demonstrating their work.

Event organiser and co-ordinator of Kent's Creative Coast Campaign, Catriona Campbell, said: "There are so many opportunities to be creative in these coastal towns whatever the weather."

Representatives from organisations including Turner Contemporary, Whitstable's Horsebridge Arts Centre and Folkestone's Creative Foundation will be on hand to encourage visitors to be artistic.

Visit Kent chairman Amanda Cottrell added: "This year the many events on offer celebrate not only Kent's unrivalled and diverse coastline but also all the creative people who live near our renowned beaches and marshlands or are inspired by them."

The week, which was launched in 2007, is being funded this year by the European regional development Interreg programme, Southern Water and London Array.

■ **See the website www.kent.gov.uk/coastalweek for the full events programme.**



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TALKING **POINT**

REGENERATION

The art of economic

By Ed Hill
ed.hill@archant.co.uk



MODERN WORLD: The new state-of-the-art Marlowe Theatre is at the heart of Canterbury's answer to culture-led regeneration

THE capacity of art to drive not only a cultural renaissance but economic regeneration continues to be a question debated in the corridors of power up and down the country.

And Kent is no different.

Unlike big business, it doesn't necessarily deliver a huge influx of jobs or industry. Yet its ability to attract an audience from far and wide, and perhaps most significantly, enhance the reputation of a town over time should not be underestimated.

In Tunbridge Wells, there is much discussion over the future use of a number of key sites. Amid much discussion about the direction of the town and decision-makers' gut feeling to enhance its retail offering, there is a growing chorus of voices calling for the town to promote the arts with new facilities which, in turn, can enhance its cosmopolitan atmosphere and create a hub for the creatives and a honey-pot for tourism.

With that debate showing no sign of slowing, on the other side of the county there are some key examples of decisions made – and the benefits now being reaped.

Within the last few weeks, Canterbury has unveiled the £25.6m new Marlowe Theatre and with its glass frontage and modern auditorium, it is seen as an essential part of the city's cultural offering.

Meanwhile, in Margate, the archetypal run-down seaside town is in the early stages of a revival – with the catalyst being the Turner Contemporary, an art gallery which has already pulled in hundreds of thousands of visitors since opening in April.

It forms a key part in the effort to use culture as a driver for the town's regeneration.

Earlier this month Turner welcomed Rodin's iconic The Kiss sculpture for a new exhibition, and the resulting national headlines would suggest it will keep those crowds flocking.

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regeneration

Turner director Victoria Pomery said: "Culture-led regeneration has worked in the UK and right across Europe.

"In Liverpool and Birmingham they have really reinterpreted themselves through culture. In Liverpool they have not only got museums and galleries they have also embraced the whole Beatles and Merseybeat history."

The prospects for the Turner seem good. Visitor numbers are greater than predicted. Since it opened, 250,000 people have walked through its doors, dovetailing with a council-led strategy of encouraging a change in attitude of everyone in the town – even instructing taxi drivers to be warm, welcoming, and informative, to ensure the first-time visitor walks away with a strong sense of wanting to return soon.

Ms Pomery said: "Local people need to see amazing pieces of work on their doorstep. It helps in terms of civic pride."

Last week the gallery won Best Use of Arts and Culture at the national Regeneration and Renewal Awards.

Arts festivals also seem to be playing an increasing part in the social life of the county.

This summer saw the three-month Folkestone Triennial. The event is the flagship of the town's Creative Foundation charity. Since it began the foundation has redeveloped more than 60 buildings close to the town's harbour and around 100 artists use the buildings as studios in the Creative Quarter.

And it doesn't end there. More and more towns are seeking a boost through an arts festival; Whitstable's Biennale and the well-established Broadstairs and Tenterden folk festivals prove regular crowd pullers, while also engaging the local population.

Canterbury has long been recognised as a cultural beacon in the county – it has a rich history, and thriving universities inject a youthful vigour to off-set its status as a popular tourist destination.

"While the new Marlowe is a cornerstone to reinforcing its reputation, the city council is also investing heavily in the Beaney Institute – a picture-postcard building in the main high street which will reopen in the spring as a revamped museum, library and art gallery.



Picture: PAUL JERREAT

ART: Rodin's The Kiss is now at Turner Contemporary

The Marlowe itself is expected to generate around £22m in its first year for the local economy.

Of course, all this investment, while admirable, is now more difficult than ever to justify given the squeeze on the public purse.

Cllr John Gilbey, leader of Canterbury council, explains: "More than 140 people are being employed by the theatre; its economic impact will be huge. Canterbury has always been a city of culture.

"People will be able to come here from around east Kent and beyond rather than having to spend money travelling to London. Its prospects are very good."

In Ashford, the council and Church of England have collaborated to spend £1.7m to turn St Mary's Church into a performance venue for visiting acts. Town chiefs hope it will help revive its town centre.

Ms Pomery said in a financial downturn, culture could help to get the economy back on its feet.

She added: "Things like this not only stimulate the economy they stimulate the feel-good factor. In an economic downturn people need things that create optimism.

"Creativity is very important in terms of the economy. Young people need to develop creative skills. Culture in a recession needs to be more ambitious than in the good times."

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STUNNING: From big white dresses to bridal underwear, even including a selection of outfits for guests, The Wedding Show hosted by Claire Sweeney was a resounding success and inspiration for brides and grooms-to-be

THE WEDDING SHOW

Happy couples' big day

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

ORGANISERS, guests and visitors at last weekend's Wedding Show at Leeds Castle have hailed the event a huge success.

An amazing range of weddings styles were unveiled at the prestigious surroundings of Leeds Castle, with TV sensation Claire Sweeney on hand to present stunning catwalk fashion shows.

The two-day Wedding Show was staged by Archant KOS Media, publisher of this newspaper.

Luxury honeymoon holidays were on offer in a number of free prize draws, as well as a superb opportunity for grooms to arrive at the ceremony in the famous DeLorean time travelling car as featured in the Back to the Future films.

More than 100 exhibitors showed off photography, culinary skills, dresses, men's attire and a host of other wedding related-services.

Musicians entertained the crowds, and there was a charity casino and demonstrations from a magician. But the centrepiece was the catwalk show which featured stunning models, amazing attire, and superb choreography.

Claire Sweeney, attending her first wedding fair, said the show was an amazing success and an inspiration to those about to tie the knot.

"I really enjoyed it," she said. "There were some amazing outfits on show and the event put everyone in the right mood for a wedding.

"Girls are coming here when they about to get married so there's excitement in the air, a real joie de vivre.

THE WEDDING SHOW
Leeds Castle, Kent



"The clothes were so beautiful on the girls and the boys on the catwalk looked great as well.

"I'd do this again in a heartbeat."

Claire also praised the variety on offer for couples and their guests who are looking forward to their big days.

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Pictures: PAUL JERREAT

STAGE STARS: Claire Sweeney (left), and the catwalk models

"What was nice about the show was that there was a bit of everything for everyone, there were guest outfits, things for the mother of the bride to wear, and so many beautiful styles of dresses.

"It was all so well put together too. Everyone loves a bit of showbiz and the girls on the catwalk coming out in their underwear certainly kept the boys lively."

Georgina Brisk was a visitor to the event. She said: "It's been a great day and I've had a lovely time. There's been a great atmosphere which has really put everyone in the wedding spirit. It's been lovely meeting all of the brides-to-be."

■ **See www.youtube.com/yourkenttv to see some of the highlights of the show.**





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CASUALTY

Health services' plea to public as minor injuries cost NHS £8.3m a year

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

TENS of thousands of people turning up at hospital casualty departments with just minor injuries are costing the NHS in Kent and Medway £8.3m a year and diverting life-saving resources.

The ongoing problem has forced health chiefs to issue a desperate plea to members of the public, urging them to choose carefully when deciding where to go for treatment of minor ailments, such as sprains and stomach bugs.

An NHS Kent and Medway spokeswoman confirmed that although money would still be spent at minor injuriy units and walk-in centres, a portion of the £8.3m could be saved should people choose treatment carefully, for example seeing their GP or staying at home to recover from ailments such as stomach bugs.

Nationally, the NHS must save £20 billion over the next four years.

Last year around 148,000 people went to emergency departments across the county with strains, sprains, cuts, bumps and bruises, when they could have received fast-track treatment at a minor injury unit, staffed by specialist nurses.

Accident and emergency clinical director at Darent Valley Hospital in Dartford, Dr Dylan Jenkins, said emergency departments were for serious injuries or potentially life-threatening events, such as a heart attack.

"It is important that we do not put people off coming to the emergency department if they need to," he said.

"However, most people know if they have a relatively minor injury or are feeling a little unwell, that accident and emergency should not be their first choice.

"By using the full range of local services like minor injury units or walk-in centres we can ensure that emergency departments can focus more resources on treating patients who really need to be there."

Research for NHS Kent and Medway showed that last year around 60 per cent of people went straight to emergency departments rather than being taken there by ambulance or being advised to go there by their GP or NHS Direct.

The majority of them had just minor injuries.

Medical director of NHS Kent and Medway, Dr Peter Green, said for some, going to the emergency department will be the right choice – but for many, it will not.

"For minor illnesses and injuries, such as sprained ankles, stomach bugs, eye injuries or toothache, there is a whole range of health services for people," he said.

"Please choose the one that will help you get the treatment you need swiftly and keep emergency departments free for those who need them."



PLEA: Minor injuries cost authorities £8.3m a year

Health chiefs are directing people suffering from minor injuries or ailments to get information from the 24-hour NHS Direct helpline on 0845 4647 or visit www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

For injuries which need cleaning, stitching or dressing, but are not life-threatening, people can go to units at community hospitals in Gravesend, Sevenoaks, Edenbridge, Faversham, Sittingbourne, Sheppey, Dover, Whitstable, Folkestone and Deal.

Find out where your nearest unit is by calling 0845 4647.

For serious or life-threatening injuries or illnesses call 999 or go to the emergency department (open 24 hours a day) at one of the county's hospitals.

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Picture: PAUL JERREAT



FAVOURITE HAUNTS: A ghostly black dog is said to stalk the countryside around Leeds Castle

Things are still going bump in the Kent night

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

THE phantom of Charles Dickens searching for his grave in Rochester, a spectral Spitfire roaring over Biggin Hill, and a column of ghostly Roman legionnaires marching to Richborough are all detailed in a new book.

Ghost hunter Rupert Matthews has been exploring tales of spooks across the county and his work The Haunted Places of Kent is out in time for Halloween.

"This is one of a series of books I have written and researched and it was among the easiest for one reason," he said.

"In contrast to other counties, wherever I went there were stories of ghosts. In a book like this you need to get a story from almost every place in the county to appeal to as many people as possible.

"Wherever I went in Kent and said what I was doing people would say 'oh you mean the white lady' or 'that's the black monk'. Not only are there ghosts all over Kent, people are willing to talk about them."

Kent's stories also include the apparition of a young Horatio Nelson striding across Chatham's naval dockyards, the spectre of a man mysteriously peering into cars in Broomhill Road, Tunbridge Wells, and a ghost who haunts the Theatre Royal, Margate.

Others include the haunting of Canterbury Cathedral by Archbishop Simon of Sudbury who was hacked to death during the Peasants' Revolt, the sighting of Count Louis Zobrowski and his famous Chitty, Chitty, Bang, Bang car round the lanes of Patrixbourne, the headless drummer boy who walks the battlements of Dover Castle and numerous ghosts at Pluckley, said to be the most haunted village in England.



GHOSTBUSTER: Rupert Matthews has a new book out

The Black Dog of Leeds is one of the more famous spectral animals in Kent and there are many tales associated with it.

According to legend, the Black Dog of Leeds is linked to another supernatural resident of Leeds Castle, a 15th century Duchess of Gloucester. This lady was found guilty of witchcraft, heresy and necromancy at a time when courts treated such crimes seriously.

Being aunt to King Henry VI, however, saved the lady's life and she was sentenced to life imprisonment at Leeds Castle instead of death. The duchess had been in residence only a few months when the Black Dog began to roam the surrounding countryside. It was widely reported the spectral hound was the evil familiar of the witch – her eyes and ears in the locality.

In time the duchess passed away but the dog remained and bad luck followed in its wake to all who saw it.

The book says the owners of Leeds Castle are dismissive of the legend. Marian Strachan, who works at the castle, declared in 2003: "We frequently receive enquiries about ghosts. I'm sorry we can't be of more help but as far as we know, stories about the black dog are just stories".

Mr Matthews has made the collection of ghost stories his life-long interest and is a member of the Society of Psychical Research and the Ghost Club.

But has he ever seen a ghost? "My answer to that question is, I'm not sure," he said. "I classify ghost sightings and if someone sees something out of the corner of their eye they cannot explain I call that a 'probable'.

"In my own case – and I've investigated over 1,000 reputed hauntings, I was in a Thorntons shop in Chester where a lady in a long green dress dating from around 1880 was reputed to haunt.

"I was upstairs in the manager's office when I saw what looked like a woman – wearing a long dress – pass the door. When we'd finished the manager said he was ready to lock up and I asked about the person upstairs.

"He said there was no-one in the building but us but went to make sure anyway. It turned out the place was empty."

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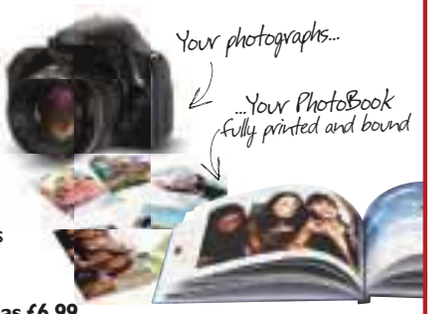
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OPINION

Foreign markets offer lifeline

As businesses battle tough economic times **Jo James**, chief executive at Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, sees exports as the future for many companies

IT SEEMS that there can be no good news about the economy, either national or worldwide, at present.

As I write, the latest blow is inflation at 5.2 per cent, the highest for three years, which comes on top of so many discouraging statistics and pessimistic forecasts – it makes you wonder if there will ever be a substantial recovery.

Could it be we are looking at a situation in which a really major change in our economic system is going to be necessary to alleviate the problem?

Many people are beginning to think that way.

The Occupy Wall Street movement, demanding radical change in the world economic structure, has developed into an international phenomenon, with protests taking place in cities throughout the world.

These protestors are by no means confined to any lunatic fringe, they are drawn from all sections of society, with some support coming from economists and multi-millionaire entrepreneurs.

Is the free market economy (or capitalism, or vested-interest economy, or whatever your chosen term) in free-fall?

Personally, I doubt it, given the resilience of the system over the last 10,000 years.

Rightly or wrongly, it is what has driven our economy throughout the development of what we call modern human civilisation and will likely continue to do so, albeit perhaps with some changes.

I do believe there will be changes, and they are likely to be beneficial in the long term. In the meantime we all have to struggle with the existing circumstances and make the best of what we have available to us.

For businesses, this probably just means more of the same that we have doing for the last few years; cutting costs and improving efficiency wherever possible, taking advantage of any opportunities that do exist, and exploiting the versatility of entrepreneurial spirit.

The business community, after all, is the driver of the free market economy, and epitomises all the resilience the market has displayed over those 10,000 years.

Many Kent businesses are already taking advantage of our favourable position and existing overseas links to build their export potential.

There is little doubt that exporting will play an increasing role in building our economy, especially as the domestic market is likely to remain sluggish in the short term. There is a huge potential market for all manner of products and services, on our doorstep in Europe and worldwide, and many businesses in Kent have the facility to exploit that market.

Kent Invicta Chamber offers support systems for exporters, and has, for instance, recently become involved in a new international trade service to help Kent exporters gain a greater insight and access to the Chinese market.



Could it be we are looking at a major change to our economic situation?

The British Chambers of Commerce and UK Trade and Industry are actively involved in helping companies in exporting, and Archant KOS Media's Business Week Live at Dover Exhibition Center on Wednesday, October 26, has an international theme.

Kent Invicta Chamber enthusiastically supports all these initiatives, and, whilst urging the Government to take all necessary measures to strengthen the domestic economy, also urges businesses to look hard at the potential of export markets.

■ **Go to www.businessweek-live.co.uk to book your free tickets for Business Week Live, and follow us on Twitter at @BusinessWkLive.**

KOS COMMENT

NHS must learn to deal with complaints

HEALTH trust have been in the spotlight for all the wrong reasons recently; last week for binning thousands of untouched meals, and now for the high number of complaints referred to the Ombudsman.

In this latest case, what is evident – aside from the appalling number of complaints – is the apparent inability for the NHS to deal with patient gripes.

Not only does this mean small issues get blown out of proportion, but being sent to a parliamentary body for consideration means more time and money spent, of which both could be put to better use elsewhere in the NHS.

Tory rebels are facing a painful weekend

IT will be an unsettled weekend for our Tory backbenchers as they prepare for the EU referendum vote on Monday.

Most uncomfortable will be the ones planning to defy David Cameron's three-line whip and vote for a referendum.

Having party enforcers twisting their arms might test their rebellious streak.



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Hop picking in Sandhurst
by John Hunt

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Now they ask for our views

John Adams, Labour councillor for Stone, tries to make political capital out of the increase in tolls at Dartford Crossing, yet I didn't notice his party being too concerned about the charges when they were in power (Letters, October 16).

As the tunnel is reported to be in foreign ownership, I'd imagine there is not a lot that can be done to regulate prices, as I can't imagine the sale included any price agreements. Why ever would politicians bite the hands that feed them and upset the companies that provide their directorships and 'moonlighting' jobs?

During Labour's rule, they kept telling us they would listen to us and get us involved with decision making, but ignored us at every turn. Now, all of a sudden, when they need cannon fodder to further their political aims, they're very interested in our views. We weren't all born yesterday.

Phil Granger, West Malling

Tolls opinion is too late

I agree in principle with John Adams in his comments last week, in that the tolls for the Dartford Crossing should have been scrapped years ago.

However, I would like to point out to him that it was his party who were in Government at the time, who initially reneged on the deal to scrap the toll charges when the Elizabeth ll Bridge was paid for, by way of toll charges

Furthermore, it was also Labour who did not scrap the toll charges, but was actually the first to raise them.

Why is it that when political parties are in opposition, they are full of ideas and suggestions, but when the time arrives for them to govern, they conveniently find excuses for not putting those ideas into being?

Labour had their chance to do something when they were in government, so please Mr Adams, do us all a favour, give us all a rest and stop banging on about them now.

Derek L Ashford, Folkestone

Schools can co-operate

Your readers, especially those involved in the education sector, may be interested to learn that a co-operative model for converter academies has recently received approval from the Department for Education.

The co-operative academy model was developed in partnership with a group of co-operative trust schools who wanted to pursue academy status in view of the additional freedoms and funding available.

The model provides a mechanism for a mutual support network of schools through the Schools Co-operative Society – a group owned and democratically controlled by co-operative schools and supported by the Co-operative Group and the Co-operative College.

Many schools which are currently members of co-operative trusts are working towards achieving co-operative academy status.

The Co-operative College offers a package of services to support schools throughout the process of conversion and I would urge school governors to check out their website or to contact schools@co-op.ac.uk.

If your school has already converted to an academy using the standard articles it can convert to the co-operative model – and become part of a growing network.

Sid Pollitt
Chair, Kent Co-operative Party, Deal

Gay marriage 'unacceptable'

I am bemused by the attitude of politicians to the concept of Broken Britain.

The Labour Party will not admit the problem exists (probably because they caused the problem with numerous pieces of legislation that have undermined the moral and ethical values of our nation).

Now we have the Conservative Party (probably as a result of pressure from the Liberal Democrats) wanting to continue the process by the introduction of gay marriage.

This is totally unacceptable.

I am convinced the Liberal Democrats are largely to blame, because of the attitude of Dr Bullion (the LD candidate) at the hustings meeting in Sevenoaks URC during last year's election campaign.

A question was asked about couselling for people with unwanted same sex attraction who, by definition, would like to have counselling about moving away from homosexuality but in the current political climate are likely to be offered only counselling that would push them back into homosexuality.

Dr Bullion wanted an example of this type of attitude. That was strange because another questioner had already given such an example concerning a large public-sector London employer that had refused (for precisely this reason) to continue to accept chaplaincy services that had been provided by the London City Mission for many years to the organisation concerned.

It has to be said that many of us are fed up with double standards in this area, and something needs to be done to put this right.

Stephen Johnson
Seal, Sevenoaks

The 'teachers' need to learn

Point of fact 'Cops in Kabul' (Letters, October 16). Somebody has to train these people, but why it has to be Kent Police is a good point.

Especially as the majority haven't a clue as to the Afghan requirements. Policing in such countries is a mix at best, yet cannot be compared to that required in the UK. Religious aspects take the lead, as do military elements, whereas human rights stagger behind.

The reality is if you don't have experience in such lands you're not fit as a trainer. This has proven itself globally for decades because they revert back anyway. It's more a case of educating the trainer beforehand than dictating what will never result. It takes more than just a UK badge, and we should have more cops on Kent streets.

As for Mike Eddy's blaming-the-Government-spin again (Opinion, October 16). He forgets it's his Labour Party that failed to get a new hospital built for Dover in how many years? It's time he stopped his blame-all-but-his-own attitude and did something for all.

We want a fully fitted international standard hospital, just like a birthing unit is paramount. All this waffle related to Ashford or Margate puts lives in danger every day. It can take an hour or more to get to both these hospitals. Why even Canterbury can take more than 30 minutes sometimes.

Connaught Barracks is the best option for such, even a university hospital is feasible. The Pfizer site would have been even better.

Let's get it sorted and stop the waffle and excuses.

Derek R Packham, Deal

On the week ending October 9, we published a photograph in our Images of Kent series that was titled 'Lights in the night sky, Tankerton.' The picture was taken by John Kemp of Whitstable. We would like to make it clear that the image was of a rare sighting of the Aurora Borealis, the Northern Lights. The picture can be seen again by going the archive section of our e-edition newspapers at www.kentnews.co.uk.

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My bank cut me off without explanation



TONY HETHERINGTON
MONEY CLINIC

Q RECENTLY I called Vodaphone to top up my mobile phone, but my debit card was rejected by my bank. I checked that my account was in credit, and then I had an interview at the bank. I was told the bank's security department had blocked my account as a security measure. This could have had serious results if I had needed my debit card urgently. Surely it must be illegal for a bank to do this without contacting the customer?

A WHAT your bank did is not a crime, but it could be a breach of contract. It is certainly no way to treat a customer. But the bank's explanation raises more questions than it answers. What made the security department block your account in the first place? Had someone tried to steal your identity perhaps, and gain access to your money? And for how long was it blocked – a day, a week, longer? If the bank does not come up with a decent explanation, then you appear to have an ironclad case for going to the Financial Ombudsman (0800 023 4567), who can award compensation.

Q I HAVE a couple of small shareholdings that I bought in privatisation issues more than 20 years ago. I would like to gift them to my grandson. They are worth less than £2,000 together, so no tax would be due. How do I go about this? Do I need a solicitor?

A YOU need a stock transfer form, which the registrar of each company should be able to provide. Or, if you have access to the internet, just Google and you will find business websites offering cheap downloads of the form. Complete it and submit it to the registrar, and the shares will belong to your grandson. You should not need professional help.

Q I HAVE credit card debts of £6,000. Internet advertisements say lots of debts can be erased through an individual voluntary arrangement (IVA), if I pay a debt manager. Is this true?

A THIS could work, but there is a downside. Basically, the debt management firm will negotiate with your card company, promising regular payments from you for anything up to five years in return for a reduction in the sum you owe. But there are charges, and you are almost certain to lose any credit cards you have. The agreement will be on your credit agency file for the next six years and could stop you getting any further credit. Avoid this if you can. At least talk to a debt advisor at Citizens Advice or the Consumer Credit Counselling Service (0800 138 1111). Their services are free.

Q PLEASE settle an argument. There have been protests about the new 50pc top tax rate, but I am sure there was a time when it was more than 90pc. My friend says this is impossible.

A THE highest income tax rates I can find in modern times were in the 1970s. The top rate of income tax was 83pc on earnings, and 98pc on savings income. And yes, there were protests then, too.

Q MY wife's parents originally purchased their house for £20,000. Subsequently, they transferred it into the names of their son and two daughters – without their knowledge – at a nominal value of £40,000. There is now talk of them wishing to sell the property, now worth £140,000. What is the tax situation for my wife, her sister and brother, as the property is not their home?

A WHAT A mess! Your wife's parents created a capital gains tax liability unnecessarily. If they had made wills leaving the house to their children, this would have sidestepped a tax bill since no gains tax is due on assets left on death. On the face of things, it will be the three children who make any sale as they are the legal owners. They must find out the real market value of the property when it was transferred to them, unless it was before March 31, 1982, in which case it is the value at that date that counts. Anything above this is a gain. There is tax relief for expenses such as estate agent's fees. There is also relief if any of the three children has made a loss on other investments. And we are all allowed a certain amount of annual gains tax free – currently £10,600. The net gain is then taxed at 18pc or 28pc, depending on your overall income. Frankly, it would be worth spending some money to see whether a solicitor can find a legal defect in the transfer of the property by the parents. If it can be held still to be theirs, that would avoid a lot of tax.

■ If you have a personal-finance question, write to Tony Hetherington, MyMoney24, Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE. We regret that neither Tony nor the MyMoney24 team can enter into personal correspondence.

Win £1,000 in our consumer survey

By Ed Foss
MyMoney 24 writer

A CHEQUE for £1,000 could be on its way to you if you take part in this year's MyMoney24 consumer survey.

Run in conjunction with financial data providers Moneyfacts.co.uk, the simple survey gives you the opportunity to have your say about which financial providers offer the best service. Whether you have enjoyed exemplary service from your current account provider or have been impressed with how your travel insurance provider dealt with a claim, here is your chance to give them the kudos you think they deserve.

Moneyfacts has researched the market by assessing providers and products on their technical merit – but, of course, a good interest rate or a low fee can mean very little if the customer is then subjected to poor service.

So now is your chance to look at the Moneyfacts shortlist and decide which of the providers have treated you well.

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>
> **SYLVIA WAYCOT,** MONEYFACTS GROUP

Entering is easy – and everyone who completes the survey by visiting www.mymoney24.co.uk will be entered into a draw to win £1,000.

"This survey is the perfect opportunity for consumers to have their say on the financial products that are important to them, whether that be a credit card, an Isa or pet insurance," said Sylvia Waycot, publishing director at Moneyfacts Group.

"As well as making their voices heard, everybody voting in the survey stands a chance of winning £1,000 – a welcome boost at such a challenging time."

The 20 categories include best pet insurance provider, best car insurance provider, best travel money provider, best home insurance provider, best energy provider, best high-street mortgage provider, best credit card provider, and best current account provider.

The survey will run until November 25, with the lucky £1,000 winner being announced in January.

The financial providers that win the survey will be unveiled at a glitzy ceremony taking place in London early next year.

■ To enter, visit www.mymoney24.co.uk and follow the link. Normal Archant competition rules apply.



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Take care of your tyres to avoid the fines

MOTORISTS who fail to take proper care of their tyres face fines of up to £10,000 and could see any insurance claims denied.

Each defective or bald tyre could see a driver hit with a fine of up to £2,500 and three penalty points, meaning four dodgy tyres on a car could lead to a five-figure fine and 12 penalty points.

A poll of drivers carried out by Confused.com found that about six people in 10 did not know that the correct tread depth for their tyres was 1.6mm, and a similar number of people did not know what the correct pressure was.

"Tyre maintenance may not sound like the most exciting topic on the planet but it is important for basic road safety," said Gareth Kloet, head of car insurance at Confused. "If your tyres have too much air or too little, this can wear the tread of tyres down quickly. If a tyre has a tread of less than 1.6mm it is qualified as an illegal tyre. If the police stop someone, they will be fined up to £2,500 for each illegal tyre.

"If someone is in a crash and their tyres are below the legal tread limit, a fine can be issued, causing their insurance to be denied."

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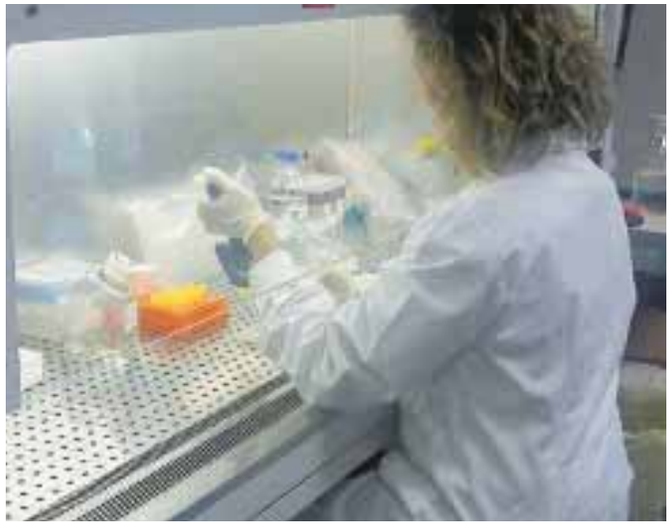
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Business Week Live Wednesday October 26th, 2011, Dover Cruise Exhibition Centre, Kent

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The leading exhibition and conference for business owners, managers, decision makers and entrepreneurs

Firm has certain chemistry for ex Pfizer workers



CUTTING EDGE: Creabilis SA has opened a site at Womenswold, near Canterbury

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

HIGHLY-QUALIFIED workers who lost their jobs when Pfizer announced it was to pull out of east Kent have been taken on by a science-based business that is moving to the county.

Creabilis SA, a European biotechnology company specialising in the development of treatments for dermatology, inflammation and pain, is in the process of locating near Canterbury.

The site at Womenswold will be responsible for the clinical development of the company's portfolio of new drugs.

And the company's most recent additions to its senior management include Dr David Roblin, James Sandy, Alex Leech and Dr Peter Spargo, all of whom had previously worked at Pfizer's UK headquarters in Sandwich.

The loss of the Pfizer plant was a major blow to the economy of east Kent and its ramifications are set to be discussed by Labour's shadow skills minister Gordon Marsden MP at the upcoming Business Week Live event, to be held at the Dover Exhibition Centre on Wednesday (October 26).

Creabilis recently raised £13 million in funding from a number of investors, led by Abbott Biotech Ventures and including NeoMed and Sofinnova Partners, as well as Italian investors.

These funds have supported establishment of the new Kent site and will be used to further advance the Creabilis pipeline, including its lead product CT327, a treatment for psoriasis and atopic dermatitis that is in Phase II clinical trials.

Dr Eliot Forster, chief executive of Creabilis, said: "Our decision to establish a presence in Kent is testimony to the quality of industry professionals we believe the region attracts, as well as its exceptionally strong links with the international pharmaceutical industry.

"We look forward to playing an active part in continuing the county's tradition as a centre of excellence for innovative businesses as we advance our products."

Paul Wookey, chief executive of Locate in Kent, the county's investment promotion agency, said: "We are delighted that Creabilis has decided to locate its UK operations in Kent as it reinforces the region's reputation for being at the forefront of the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries not just in the UK but internationally, and its ability to attract companies of the highest calibre to establish here."

E-COMMERCE

Timber supplier picks up top website award

A NEW website by Howarth Timber & Building Supplies has been named best in the business by the timber industry's leading trade magazine.

In an event at London's Grand Connaught Rooms, the Dartford supplier was named winner of Website Of The Year category in the Timber Trades Journal Awards for 2011.

The award was judged independently by industry experts and presented to Howarth Timber's Neale Brewster by TV property expert Sarah Beeny.

"This is the accolade we wanted," said Mr Brewster. "Our industry has recognised that we have an impressive presence on the internet."

Commenting on the award, the judging panel said: "The Howarth Timber Group is a perfect example of a company embracing the web to effectively promote its brand, services and products. A deserving winner."

Mr Brewster said: "Our web-development team have worked extremely hard and their efforts have now been rewarded in the best possible way."

With 28 branches throughout the UK, the company is part of The Howarth Timber Group, the UK's largest privately-owned timber business.

INVESTMENT

New bank-backed growth fund to give companies a financial boost

IN a move to stimulate economic growth, expanding businesses across the county are being offered the opportunity to obtain private-sector funding via a new source of cash – first announced last autumn.

The Business Growth Fund is aimed at assisting companies with turnover between £5 million and £50m who are looking to fund their growth with between £2m and £10m of equity capital.

The BGF is a new investment fund, launched in April and backed by five of the UK's biggest banks with the object of stimulating growth in the economy by driving local deals and offering ongoing support.

Independent of Government, the fund has up to £2.5 billion available to invest.

It has been designed to plug the gap between venture capital and private-equity investment in the £2m-£10m range and, where appropriate, it will work with other funders.

Sectors in which the BGF is particularly interested include hi-tech, niche manufacturing industries, software and electronics, tourism and leisure, healthcare and life sciences, business services, specialist retail and IT.

The fund was announced almost 12 months ago and has attracted some criticism for moving slowly.

The BGF has so far invested £4.2m for a minority stake in Benefex, a provider of online employee reward and benefit schemes.

CAREERS

Hotel fair will focus on tourism sector

TOURISM and hospitality businesses from across Kent have the chance to meet the sector's workers of the future at a careers fair in November.

Taking place at the Pegwell Bay Hotel, Ramsgate, on Monday, November 28, the Tourism Careers Fair will give employers the chance to mix with students from schools and colleges across Thanet and Canterbury with an interest in a job in the industry.

The fair will feature guest speakers including Charles Buchanan, chief executive at Manston airport, and Frank Thorley, founder and chairman of Thorley Taverns.

"This is a great opportunity for employers to meet young people who are genuinely interested in a career in tourism and hospitality in a relaxed and informal setting," said Kerstin Andrews, head of training at Visit Kent. "It's a great entry-level career in a sector that is vitally important to the future economy of Thanet."

There are places still available for any businesses that would like to exhibit. For more information, phone Farah Miri-Meziane on 07920 792319 or alternatively email farah.mirimeziane@kent.gov.uk.

TRANSPORT



OPTIMISM: Manston airport

What is the outlook for our airports?

WITH some of the South East's major airports working at near-capacity, and the Government ruling out expansion at Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted, what is the outlook for the region's passengers and businesses?

Charles Buchanan, chief executive of Manston airport in Thanet, will be speaking at Business Week Live, examining the options, the challenges and the opportunities.

He says that with Lydd's expansion the subject of a public inquiry, and proposals for a Thames-estuary airport facing huge opposition from local people and environmental groups, Manston could be well placed to meet increasing demand for runway capacity.

Buchanan will put forward the case for the growth of the airport and explain how, by attracting more scheduled passenger and freight airlines, it would welcome 2.2 million passengers and 167,000 tonnes of freight a year by 2018.

A recent economic-impact study estimated that the Kent airport could deliver almost £65 million gross value-added a year to the local economy by 2018 if its master plan for development was realised and create more than 2,000 jobs for east Kent and a further 1,000 in the wider economy.

Sustainable practices to help build the future of your firm

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

THE issue of sustainability is set to be tackled at the upcoming Business Week Live 2011 conference, to be held at the Dover Cruise Exhibition Centre on Wednesday October 26.

Duncan Murray, managing director of Ashford company Directline Structures, which designs and builds steel-framed structures to sectors including education, retail and recreational units and industrial buildings, will be pointing out its benefits.

He said: "In the current tough economic climate, sustainability is not exactly at the top of a company's agenda – in fact, can anyone afford to go down the sustainable route at the moment?

"To which I say: 'Can anyone afford not to adopt a sustainable approach to building?'. It's not a gimmick or a fad, it is common sense and it will save you money."

He continued: "For any business considering a new building – a retail unit, warehouse, school, care home or sports hall – the prospect of saving around 30 per cent on the cost of the project must be hugely appealing.

"A sustainable building can be cost-effective, good-looking and a pleasant place to work. It can also benefit from lower running costs – all of which further enhances the long-term value of the building.

"By adopting lean design and construction methods and waste avoidance, businesses make dramatic savings in materials and so save costs, without cutting corners.

"Call it sustainable, call it green and eco-friendly, but also call it efficient and plain good value. In short, it's the best possible way to save money and end up with the building you want at a price you can afford. So how is this achieved?"

Mr Murray said advice could steer companies in the right direction.

He said: "Choose an expert, whether it's a consultant or a contractor company that can provide a complete service. If you don't know what you want, then a consultant can steer you through the main decision – if you do know what you want, the best value comes with a design-and-build service, one that can take a project from concept to design, through the planning process, construction and fit-out to handover.



STRUCTURE: Duncan Murray is urging people to look at sustainable building

"By avoiding layers of consultants, the costs involved and loss of control that split responsibilities can cause, savings can be made – as much as 30 per cent.

"Lean design has a major part to play in this. By understanding the disciplines of structural design and building detailing, the construction process and the costs of all stages and elements, big savings are made in raw materials. That's simply good, sustainable design, but it also has an immediate cost benefit to clients and a dramatic CO_2 reduction."

"What the client ends up with is a well-designed, flexible, cost-effective building built for the purpose it was intended, all within budget."



It's not always a good thing to multi-task

BUSINESS-OWNERS are spreading themselves too thin by taking on so many different roles within their own company, according to research by invoice finance specialist Bibby Financial Services.

The region's owners and managers are well aware that wearing a range of different hats is par for the course. However, according to the survey, many are regularly being forced into taking on other duties in addition to traditional roles such as recruitment, securing finance and marketing.

The research found that more than three-quarters (78 per cent) of business-owners in the region are being drawn into chasing late payments, while 70 per cent regularly have to buy office supplies. Furthermore, 45 per cent are regularly collecting and making deliveries and, surprisingly, almost two-thirds even help out with the cleaning (62 per cent).



DEAL MAKER: Business owners are getting too tied up in other roles

At a time when they should be focused on identifying growth areas for their business as well as maintaining a healthy cash flow, increasing orders and boosting sales, the findings by Bibby Financial Services suggest the Kent business-owner of today is actually an extreme multi-tasker.

Jon Charsley, Bibby Financial Services spokesman for the South East, said: "There is a real danger that South East firms may suffer if owners and managers continue to shoulder all the responsibility for the operation of their business.

"It is of particular concern that many in the region are spending so much time chasing customer payments and dealing with suppliers, possibly at the expense of tasks that are really going to help their business grow, such as securing new business.

"Working closely with many business-owners and managers in the South East, we understand the pressures they are under, and that they often have to take on many different roles to make their business a success. We aim to alleviate some of these pressures and free up their time to concentrate on running and growing their business."



BANKING ON IT: The 74-acre Rochester Riverside site is part of the Thames Gateway regeneration

Developer begins first phase in exciting £8.7m riverside regeneration

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

DENNE, part of the Leadbitter Group, has started work on a £8.7 million development on behalf of The Hyde Group as part of the regeneration of Rochester Riverside.

The planned regeneration of Rochester Riverside, currently a 74-acre brownfield site, is one of the most exciting and highly-anticipated regeneration projects in the Thames Gateway.

Phase 1 of the development, which is supported by a £4.6 million affordable-housing grant from the Homes and Community Agency, will involve Denne delivering a 41-bed extra-care home, 32 one- and two-bedroom flats for rent and shared ownership, and one retail unit

The new homes will be constructed using a traditional timber and concrete frame and will incorporate solar photovoltaic panels on the roof. They will also be delivered in accordance with the Green Charter.

Published by Medway Council, the charter aims to ensure Rochester Riverside exceeds the latest Government regulations on sustainability, including requirements on water usage, carbon emissions, sustainable building materials, recycling and waste management.

All of this means the project is targeted to achieve Code for Sustainable Homes Level 3 and a BREEAM (BRE Environmental Assessment Method) 'very good' rating.

"We have worked tirelessly to get the design, materials and features right before the contract was signed," said Mike Finch, assistant director of development at Hyde.

"People will be able to move into the new homes as early as December 2013."

Graham Brown, managing director at Denne, said: "We are delighted to be the first contractor to commence work on phase 1 of the Rochester Riverside development.

"This is a key project in the wider regeneration of sites along the River Medway and will mean so much to the people of the historic town of Rochester. We are sure that the facilities we are providing will be a fantastic start to this wonderful project."



Company uses bright idea to save big sun of money

SOLAR power is considered by some to be kinder to the environment and it can save people money.

Now a company from Kent is about to practise what it preaches – and sells – after gaining planning permission to build a solar photovoltaic (PV) system that will generate enough solar power to run 12 average-sized homes.

However, it's not homes on this occasion that the ground-mounted solar array will power – it's The Green Home Company's offices in Coxheath, near Maidstone.

Once completed, the solar installation will slash the amount of electricity the firm's offices use – and reduce its carbon footprint, too.

Green Home Company managing director Alan Proto said: "It's fantastic news for everyone, really. We are delighted to be able to use the same solar panels we sell to residential and commercial clients across the South East, to reduce our electricity bills and lower our CO_2 emissions at the same time."

The 50kWp ground-mounted solar array will be built next to The Green Home Company's offices. It will offset 23 tonnes of CO_2 every year.

The project, which will be worth some £350,000, is seen as a sound investment in the future of The Green Home Company and the environment. The development should take no longer than eight weeks to complete and will be in place before February next year

Proto said: "As long as there is daylight, the panels will produce electricity. They will generate at full capacity when it is a clear, sunny day.

"It's really cost-effective for us to put this in place as we can do it ourselves and we, as well as the environment, benefit from it. It's taken nearly a year to get planning permission, but it is well worth it from our point of view."

The Green Home Company installs solar panels onto domestic and commercial premises in Kent and across the South East.

It also operates a scheme by which residents can have solar panels fitted for free if their roof is south-facing, the correct size and unshaded.

Using its own installers, The Green Home Company is a top-10 UK solar installation company. It is also a major local employer, having recruited more than 100 people in Kent over the last 12 months

The company was created in September 2009 and was the brainchild of Proto, who lives near Sevenoaks.

Spotting the increasing need for and popularity of solar energy, he decided to start a business dedicated to installing solar panels, adding it to his portfolio of already-successful construction businesses.

Since January 2010, the company has carried out more than 300 installations across the South East, with 58 systems sold in August 2011 alone.

The company has fitted some 5,000 panels since it began trading, producing between them around one megawatt of power each year.



PICK OF THE BUNCH: The Green Home Company's Orchard House offices in Maidstone will soon be powered by solar panels erected by the company

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Why Jobs24 is the best choice for employment

EMPLOYERS and recruitment specialists are set to benefit from the relaunch of the JobsForKent website as Jobs24.co.uk, providing a range of new opportunities for businesses to reach the perfect candidates.

The new site boasts a number of special features that will make the process of reaching target-users more effective, including enhanced job listings which make vacancies stand out and appear higher up the search results page.

'Hot Jobs' on the Jobs24.co.uk homepage is another highly-effective option for ensuring vacancies are seen by local jobseekers, while the 'Featured Jobs' section provides another point of publicity.

The successful 'CV Match' service, which gives employers the opportunity to communicate with more than 140,000 jobseekers, has been updated and improved. It now features improved search technology and advanced user search options, ensuring each vacancy will find its relevant audience.

In addition, the launch of the Jobs24 mobile site (m.jobs24.co.uk), which is accessible from any mobile smart phone, means users can look for their next job and be kept informed of the latest vacancies while on the move.

Meanwhile, the Jobs24 homepage shows the latest jobs-related news on a special feed from the Archant KOS Media newsroom, while also offering a careers advice section with CV guides, interview techniques and other tools.

Local employers who want to have a more permanent presence on the site can also have a company profile, which provides a directory listing and logo on the homepage.

The move to Jobs24 is being backed by a major marketing campaign, all designed to drive jobseekers to their new local recruitment website of choice.

Archant KOS Media telephone sales manager Fawad Minhas said: "I am really excited by the opportunities our new site offers employers, agencies and jobseekers.

"We can now offer even more effective methods for reaching relevant jobseekers and differentiate our clients' vacancies.

"Our new online and mobile sites ensure Jobs24 remains the leading platform for advertisers to place their vacancies and for users to find the right job."

By Steve Knight
steve.knight@archant.co.uk

A CAREERS fair was held to promote the enjoyment of working in the Garden of England's agricultural industries.

The Farming Futures event – organised by Kent County Council in partnership with Kent County Agricultural Society and the Godinton Trust – was attended by more than 500 young people aged 14-19 at the Kent Showground in Detling, near Maidstone.

They had the opportunity to find out about arable and livestock farming, food production, and woodland and countryside management, as well as veterinary and animal care, engineering, and more.

Representatives from agricultural businesses, colleges and apprenticeship providers were also on hand to discuss course options and help students decide on their future career prospects.

KCC cabinet member for education, learning and skills Cllr Mike Whiting, said there were numerous opportunities for school-leavers, with 50,000 jobs available over the next 15 years in the agricultural and land-based sector.

He added: "It is fantastic to see a resurgence in agriculture and farming careers. The traditions that made this county great need the next generation to come through.

"There are so many opportunities in this industry and we are keen to champion them.

"Through the Farming Futures event, students were able to see all the courses and job options available to them."

Farming Futures is one of the council's 'careers master classes', which give young people the chance to find out more about a range of vocational careers including hands-on activities organised by industry professionals.

Kent County Agricultural Society director Roz Day said: "Farming Futures was a hugely important event.

"There are 50,000 jobs that will be available within the next 15 years in this industry, and nobody realises how exciting agriculture is.

"We cannot lose track of the traditional crafts. Who is going to do stonewalling? Who is going to thatch your cottage? However, there are also a lot of modern day skills needed out there – things like scientific research, engineering, marketing and information technology.

"Farming is not the vision of somebody in filthy wellies and a boiler suit any more. It is high technology and big business these days."

Isobel Bretherton – National Farming Union representative for the South East – added: "It's so important we enthuse young people about food and farming, and that they understand where their food comes from, as well as recognising there are good career paths and that you can earn a good living with agriculture. I applaud the organisers of this event."

What is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working? Do you send employees on training courses to aid their personal development or run apprenticeship schemes? If you have a good news story email steve.knight@archant.co.uk or give him a call on 01303 817136.



DIG IN: Bradley Seager and Tim Simmonds of Sittingbourne Community College

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Creative minds gather at UCA event to discuss future role of universities

INFLUENTIAL figures from the worlds of business, education and politics discussed the role of the creative industries at an event organised by the University for the Creative Arts.

International business adviser David Parrish and former Chatham and Aylesford MP Jonathan Shaw joined a panel of experts at the Creative Industries Leadership Forum in London, last month.

In partnership with the Work Foundation, the event provided a platform for a debate into how the education sector can assist the UK's creative industries to compete in the global market.

Organiser Dr Martin Bouette, who runs UCA Rochester's MBA in creative industries management, said: "The timing of this debate into creativity, business and education is fantastic because we have an opportunity to influence the role the creative industries can play in kick-starting our stalling economy.

"It was a well-attended, lively debate and we were proud to have such a great panel of experts and attendees."

Mr Shaw, the former Labour minister for the South East, added: "The debate really got underneath some of the key issues facing universities and how they can help talented people develop business skills as well as creative skills."

The next debate, on entrepreneurship and education, takes place on November 25.

Tuition fees explained at BIS roadshow

GRADUATES are touring schools and colleges across Kent to help young people understand the changes to higher education student finance.

From next year universities will be allowed to charge tuition fees of up to £9,000, but students will not have to pay any of the cost back until they are earning more than £21,000 per year.

Pupils at St Augustine Academy, Maidstone, were some of the first to be given a presentation explaining the new system, as part of the Government's Student Finance School and College Tour.

Recent graduates and representatives of the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) aim to visit 120 schools and colleges in Kent in the run-up to the UCAS application deadline on January 15.

Ajay Attra, teacher and director of business enterprise at St Augustine Academy, said: "Our students are facing an important life decision and it is understandable that they and their parents might have concerns.

"Many of our students are confused about whether or not to go to university.

"There has been a lot of misinformation about student finance, so it's important students get the facts about university costs and the help that is available.

"Today's presentation did that. As a recent graduate, our guest Tom Farrell was able to give the students a better understanding of what university is really like as well as useful peer-to-peer advice.



EXPERIENCED: Recent graduate Tom Farrell

"I'm sure this approach made it much easier for students to open up and get the most out of the Q&A sessions."

Universities minister David Willetts said: "Recent graduates are ideally placed to give prospective students the facts about going to university. Having just graduated, they can not only explain the student finance system, but they can also give that all-important insight into what university life is all about.

"We want to make sure no-one is put off applying to university because they do not have enough information about the new student finance system."

Sydney Opera House accolade for music lecturer who is a hit in Oz

SYDNEY Opera House will play host to a short work by Canterbury Christ Church University's senior lecturer for music.

'Breakdown' by Dr Matt Wright will be performed by Ensemble Offspring, a contemporary music collective who are rapidly gaining a glowing reputation across Australia.

His piece will kick off a wider event called The New Radicals, featuring composers from Norway, Denmark, New Zealand and Holland.

Dr Wright said: "I'm thrilled my work is starting to get performed in Australia, and naturally completely shocked it's being played at the Sydney Opera House.

"It's thanks to the staff and students of the music and performing arts department at Canterbury Christ Church that I've had the chance to make things like this happen, and I'm really inspired by the possibilities for the future."

In November next year, Ensemble Offspring will also tour Totem for Sydney – a new commissioned work from Dr Wright which focuses on fresh approaches to the concert hall tradition.

The lecturer's other compositional work will also be featured in the UK, France, Holland and Belgium this year, and follows the recent worldwide release of a CD he co-composed and recorded with acclaimed saxophonist Evan Parker in Broadstairs and Canterbury.

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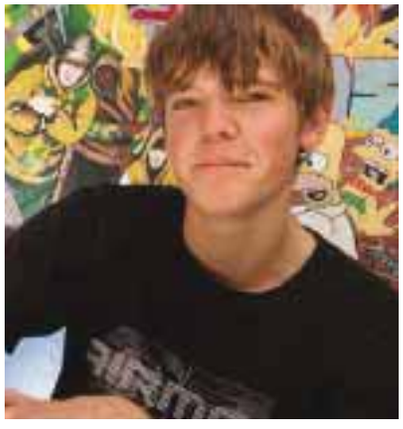
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For further information about these posts, please contact Benjamin Taiwo, Service Manager on 01634 406087.

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All figures pro rata for part-time

You will be providing interventions for a range of common mental health problems. You must be experienced in delivering CBT on a 1:1 or group basis, in line with the Skills for Health Psychological Competencies Maps.

BABCP accreditation or working towards this is essential. The full range of skills and competencies as laid out in the competence framework for CBT (Roth and Pilling 2007) is essential. Experience of other NICE recommended interventions such as EMDR, IPT, (Behavioural) Couples Therapy for depression etc. would be advantageous.

We also require a Senior High Intensity Therapist to undertake the above duties, alongside supervision of High Intensity Therapists in Eastern and Coastal Kent. Supervision training will be provided. This role will be based in one of our teams in Faversham, Ashford or Thanet but may require travel across Eastern and Coastal Kent.

For further information on these roles, please contact Pavlo Kanellakis, IAPT Clinical Lead by emailing pkanellakis@kca.org.uk or Lynda Burr, Service Manager by emailing lburr@kca.org.uk

Supervisor • Ref: 819

£30,460 pro rata (Agenda for Change Band 7) dependent on experience and qualifications
10 – 15 hours per week (Tuesday and Wednesday)
Fixed term for one year

You will provide supervisory services within primary care and community settings across Eastern and Coastal Kent.

As a qualified supervisor you will have experience of supervising and delivering brief interventions for common mental health problems.

You will provide expert supervision both individually and in groups, and need to be accredited with a recognised governing body. Liaison with the Clinical Lead is required to ensure compliance with KCA policies and procedures. We will provide line management and training opportunities.

For an application form, please visit our website **www.kca.org.uk**
Alternatively, you can email **recruitment@kca.org.uk** or telephone **01795 590795** and select option three.
Please quote the appropriate reference in your application.

Closing date for all posts: Midday on Friday 28 October 2011.
Interview date for Supervisor post: 1 November 2011.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all.
Charity No: 292824

www.kca.org.uk

Progressive, Responsive, Effective

We also have a range of volunteer roles available across all PTP services. Volunteers support our work as part of their social activities and many take up paid positions within our organisation. We also welcome student placements of substantial duration. For further information about placements or volunteering please contact Jo Ross Gower, IAPT Clinical Lead Medway & Havering on jo.ross-gower@kca.org.uk or Pavlo Kanellakis, IAPT Clinical Lead Kent on pkanellakis@kca.org.uk

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Is this the job for you?

ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high-quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require the following staff to complement our team at our home in

BOBBING

SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS
from £15,250

SUPPORT WORKERS
from £13,250

For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com
Alternatively e-mail louise.burrows@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8871.

ACH London Limited

Forward Care (Residential) Ltd
Providing Residential Care for Adults with Learning Disability

We require

Support or Senior Support Worker for NIGHTS

Vacancy available at our Residential Home in Sittingbourne
NVQ Level 3 required for Senior Support position
Will need to have 6 months experience working with ALD
Interested candidates should apply in writing enclosing a recent C.V

We also require a Support and Senior Support worker for Days this post may require occasional nights as and when needed.
To provide care for Adults with Learning Disabilities and Challenging Behaviour
NVQ Level 2 required for all Support Worker positions

Registered Manager / Elina Sills
Forward Care (Residential) Ltd
15 Keycol Hill, Sittingbourne Kent ME9 8LZ

Previous applicants need not reply

Contracts Officer

£20,967 to £25,620 per annum

Shepway District Council is creating a new and exciting role within its Client Unit to help support the unit in delivering robust contract management and ensuring that value for money, quality, and risk are effectively managed to get the best outcomes for our residents.

The successful applicant will be working with the Corporate Contracts Manager in the newly created Client Unit. The post will involve providing administrative support to the Client Unit, monitoring and reporting on the performance of the council's contracts and other partnership agreements.

The responsibilities of the Client Unit will increase over time and this is an ideal time for an individual looking for a new challenge to join the council.

Candidates may have public sector experience but the experience and value they can bring in modern, flexible and effective contract management will be of more interest.

For an informal discussion about this post please contact Andrew Rush, on 01303 853271.

For more information and to apply please visit www.shepway.gov.uk/jobs

Closing date for completed applications is **Monday 7 November 2011.**

Interview dates: **Friday 18 November 2011**

Residential Home based in Doddington, Sittingbourne requires a

Part-time Care Assistant

To help adults with learning disabilities.
Must have own transport due to location.
Full training will be given.
For more information, please call Mrs Brooks - Tel: **01795 886220**

John Lewis

Tunbridge Wells - Cleaners

Pay rates are Mon - Sat £6.25ph Sunday £7.25. 3hrs per shift with possible more hours when required to cover Holidays and sickness

Please call The Emprise Group **02075490876** or email **sophie.whitelock@emprise.co.uk** for further information

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KA THE KINGSARMS

Head Chef

required for a village pub

that provides freshly prepared and locally sourced food. We require a capable and experienced Chef to carry out all Head Chef duties with skill and attention to detail, someone who has a passion for good food and maintaining consistent levels of food quality. We are looking for someone who is prepared to lead and develop their staff, prepared to work hard to maintain high standards and who has a flair for creative country pub dining. Needs to have good communication skills, can maintain high levels of cleanliness and a well stocked and accountable kitchen. If you like working as a team and have a 'can do' attitude we look forward to hearing from you.
Salary circa £23K (depending on experience)
Experience and references are an absolute must.
If this sounds like you - please reply to Anna at thekingsarmsboxley@yahoo.co.uk and attach a c.v.

Community Nursing Care Agency are now recruiting

Male & Female for specialist 1-1 community team supporting children and adults in the community with complex needs

Must have experience in working with people using the principles of positive behaviours support

For more information or to send your details please contact Zoe
zoe@communitynursingcareagency.co.uk
01233 619530

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- Competitive rates of pay
- Flexible working hours
- Weekend and morning hours available
- Free training to HSC Level 2 Diploma
- 28 days' paid annual leave (pro rata)
- No previous experience necessary
- Good written and spoken English

London Care is a leading provider of care support services to vulnerable older people and children with disabilities living in their own homes.

For an application form contact the central recruitment team on 0208 795 6555 or e-mail: recruitment@londoncare.co.uk

London Care is an Equal Opportunities Employer

www.londoncare.co.uk

Tonbridge Juddians Rugby Club

CLUB STEWARD

required

Experienced professional required to run busy clubhouse bar. Part-time (approx 25 hours/week) but with a bias on Friday to Sunday. Some seasonal variations. Responsible for Bar, Cellar, Stock & Staff Supervision. Must hold Personal Licence.

For more details contact Jonathan Maidman 07747771167

Cossington House Surgery

RECEPTION SUPERVISOR

HOURS: **Full Time - 37 hrs per wk (Mon - Fri)**
SALARY: **£18,500 p.a.**

We are seeking a professional and driven supervisor of the highest quality for our thriving Practice. They must have an uncompromising commitment towards standards and able to manage an experienced team. Strong IT and administration skills, with a flexible approach to work are necessary. Medical experience not essential.

Further details and an application pack obtainable from the **Practice Manager, COSSINGTON HOUSE SURGERY, 51 Cossington Road, CANTERBURY CT1 3HX (01227) 763377**

Closing date for applications is Fri 4/11/11.

Interviews week commencing 14/11/11.

Are you looking for a new challenge?

BBA Reman is currently recruiting a

Management Accountant

to join our fast-moving, successful company at their head office in Rochester, Kent. Candidates must have experience with UK GAAP and accruals accounting, experience of P&L down to a bookkeeping level, understanding of VAT procedures (including cross-border) and Sage Line 50. You will have the chance to own your P&L and make quick and salient recommendations to business unit managers.

Please send your CV through to careers@bba-reman.com

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wattsfarms

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTANT

Salary £30k + neg.

We require an ambitious and experienced accountant to lead a growing team to provide monthly management and annual financial statements for this £20m turnover company.

The successful candidate will be Sage literate and will be able to have a "hands on" approach to the delivery of timely and comprehensive management information. Reporting directly to the Board.

The post will suit a person who wants to be part of the senior management team, taking decisions on the management information rather than just producing it.

All CVs in writing to:
Watts Farms c/o McBrides Accountants LLP, Nexus House, 2 Cray Road, Sidcup, Kent DA14 5DA
email:Keith.utton@mcbridesllp.com

It pays to advertise



Call 01303 817150
www.kentnews.co.uk

Is this the job for you?

ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high-quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require the following staff to complement our team at our home in

CHILHAM

BANK STAFF

£6.53 per hour

For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com
Alternatively e-mail joan.williams@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8841.

ACH London Limited

Fostering Manager

Supervision of Social Work and Support Staff

credocare

Key skills and qualifications
The candidate must have CQSW or DipSW and two years post qualifying experience and be registered with GSCC. The candidate will have experience of supervising social work staff and working with children in care.
The candidate will be able to ensure the maintenance of accurate records of placements, including case recording, placement agreements, assessment reports, carer reviews, carer supervision and child progress reports. The candidate will also be expected to undertake annual reviews of Foster Carers.
Good communication and assessment skills and experience are essential along with report writing skills.
Full Driving Licence and have good IT skills.

Salary Scale:	£28K to £45K depending on experience or qualifications
	Full time 37.5 hours per week
Benefits:	Car allowance, enhancement for Out of Hours
Work base:	Head Office Lydd, Romney Marsh, Kent
Please contact	**David Burton at d.burton@credocare.co.uk**
or	**Anjie Newland a.newland@credocare.co.uk**

Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Hourly Paid Lecturer in Media ***Ref: SE510***

Hourly Rate: £22.45 - £27.22 per hour (Dependent on Qualifications and Experience) Medway

We are looking to recruit an outstanding candidate to contribute to the delivery of Media programmes, providing curriculum tutorial support as required. The successful candidate will have experience in Video and/or Audio Production and a Degree or HND in a Media Discipline as well as a creative attitude coupled with excellent communication skills. The post holder will have an understanding of the editing package final cut pro and adobe auditions and will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Hourly Paid Learning Support Assistants ***Ref: LSA01***

Hourly Rate: £9.38 per hour Variable hours (minimum 15 hours per week) Medway & Maidstone Campus

The College is looking to recruit Learning Support Assistants to support students throughout the department in the implementation of additional needs. The ideal candidate will have the ability to work in a manner to support the changing needs of students ensuring differentiation is implemented within the classroom and have experience of supporting young adults with a range of learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

Closing date: 12 noon Friday 28 October 2011

MidKent College and RBLI Employment Solutions are working in partnership to support disabled applicants. For assistance please contact RBLI on 0800783114 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk

For an application pack and further details visit www.midkent.ac.uk or e mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively you may contact Human Resources on 01634 383102.

The College is committed to safeguarding young people and vulnerable adults therefore any offer of employment will be subject to a CRB check.

MidKent College

Experienced, enthusiastic Practice Nurse

required for an established, progressive and friendly family GP surgery in Sevenoaks.

This is a part time position, currently 21 hours per week and the salary is negotiable up to £17 per hour dependent upon experience.

Applications with CV to:-

Keith Salter, Practice Manager,
Town Medical Centre,
25 London Road, Sevenoaks TN13 1AR

For a full job description please email brenda.sarjant@nhs.net

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PUBLIC/ COMMUNITY APPOINT

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It's jobs for Kent

THANET COLLEGE
RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:

PROGRAMME LEADER IN CATERING AND HOSPITALITY

37 hours per week, all year

Salary: £29,413 - £34,817

The college is looking to recruit a Programme Leader in Catering and Hospitality to ensure a well-organised high quality course or study programme that effectively meets the needs of the students.

The main duties of this role include teaching, tutorial work, curriculum development and planning and to lead a team of staff including coordinating the delivery of courses within the Catering and Hospitality programme area.

Closing date: 2 November 2011

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'Vacancies'. Alternatively contact the HR Office, Thanet College, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN or telephone our application line for an application pack on (01843) 605052

Promoting Equality

Preventing Discrimination

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE | matrix | SKILLS EMPLOYMENT SOLUTIONS

THANET COLLEGE
RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:

PROGRAMME LEADER ENGINEERING AND COMPUTING

37 hours per week, all year

Salary: £29,413 - £34,817

To be responsible for managing a programme area and to promote very high standards in a positive and supportive culture that aspires to be outstanding.

Closing date: 2 November 2011

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'Vacancies'. Alternatively contact the HR Office, Thanet College, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN or telephone our application line for an application pack on (01843) 605052

Promoting Equality

Preventing Discrimination

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE | matrix | SKILLS EMPLOYMENT SOLUTIONS

THANET COLLEGE

RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

'EARN AS YOU LEARN' HOSPITALITY ADVANCED APPRENTICESHIPS FIXED TERM FOR ONE YEAR

Salary scale: £95 per week for 37 hours per week

Thanet College is delighted to offer exciting opportunities to 'earn as you learn' through 2 Apprenticeship posts working in the college's highly regarded Catering department.

The successful candidates will be required to assist in the day to day running of the College Restaurant/Bar and to assist and supervise students in all aspects of Restaurant/Bar work.

The programme will result in a Level 2 or Level 3 qualification providing an excellent gateway into the world of employment for 16 to 18 year olds.

Closing Date for applications: 2 November 2011

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'About Us', then 'Vacancies'. If you require assistance please telephone our application line on (01843) 605052

We value the diversity of our workforce and welcome applications from all sectors of the community.

Promoting Equality

Preventing Discrimination

THANET COLLEGE

RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:

COMMUNITY AND EMPLOYABILITY ADMINISTRATOR

Fixed Term until 31st March 2012

To provide administrative and secretarial support to all staff and students within the Community and Employability team.

Salary Scale: £14,854 - £15,980

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'About Us', then 'Vacancies'. If you require assistance please telephone our application line an (01843) 605052

Closing date for the post: Wednesday 2ND November 2011

Promoting Equality

Preventing Discrimination

THANET COLLEGE

RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:

PROGRAMME AREA MANAGER ENGINEERING AND COMPUTING

37 hours per week, all year

Salary: £33,917 - £38,358

To be responsible for managing a programme area and to promote very high standards in a positive and supportive culture that aspires to be outstanding.

Closing date: 2 November 2011

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'Vacancies'. Alternatively contact the HR Office, Thanet College, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN or telephone our application line for an application pack on (01843) 605052

Job reference: PAMC001

Promoting Equality

Preventing Discrimination



The future of local media

Be a part of an exciting and growing team developing our portfolio across Kent

Telephone Sales Executive

Full time Permanent

If you are highly driven, confident, a self motivated team player with good communication skills, who is able to work under pressure to deadlines and targets, in our fast paced and fun telesales department, then apply.

You will be office based and working with an existing client base of advertisers where customer service is paramount, but you must also be able to search out new business to develop and grow your territory revenues and opportunities.

We believe and pride ourselves in good customer service, professional marketing solutions and excellent business relationships. We provide innovative ideas that will in return give our clients real value and response.

Media experience is not essential as full training will be given however good numeracy, literacy and computer skills are required.

We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonus scheme, ongoing training and career development, five weeks' annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all the benefits of working for a large media organisation.

Please apply in writing with your CV and covering letter in the first instance to:

Fawad Minhas, Telephone Sales Manager,
ARCHANT KOS MEDIA
Apple Barn, Hythe Road
Smeeth, Ashford Kent. TN25 6SS
Or email: fawad.minhas@archant.co.uk

ARCHANT KOS MEDIA

Public Notice

20 October 2011

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

Audit of accounts 2010/11

Notice of certification of completion of audit

Public notice is hereby given that under Regulation 11 of the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 the District Auditor has completed the audit of the above accounts for the year ended 31 March 2011.

An unqualified opinion and the audit certificate on the accounts were issued by the District Auditor on 29 September 2011. On the same date, the District Auditor issued an unqualified conclusion on the Authority's arrangements for securing value for money as required by the Audit Commission's Code of Practice. The Auditor has not identified any issues of public interest to report under Section 8 of the Audit Commission Act 1998.

In accordance with Section 14 of the 1998 Act, any local government elector for the area may:

- inspect and make copies of the statement of accounts
- ask the authority for a copy of the statement of accounts.

The statement of accounts is available for inspection by any local government elector for the area at Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW, on weekdays (excluding public holidays) between 8.30am and 5pm. The accounts can also be found at **www.canterbury.gov.uk/assets/finance/finalaccounts2011.pdf**

Colin Carmichael
Chief Executive
Canterbury City Council
Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW

Maidstone Borough Council

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 that Maidstone Borough Council proposes to dispose of the leasehold interest in approximately 6,440 sq. metres of land at Penshurst Close, Grove Green; to Boxley Parish Council to enable them to plant a Community Orchard to celebrate the Diamond Wedding Anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Further details of this disposal may be obtained from the office of the Assistant Director of Environment and Regulatory Services, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6JQ; where the plan can be inspected during normal office hours.

Objections to this proposal should be sent in writing to the Assistant Director of Environment & Regulatory Services at the above address, no later than **Friday 2 December 2011.**

Steve Goulette
Assistant Director of Environment and Regulatory Services
Friday 21 October 2011

MAIDSTONE Borough Council

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13

KCC/SW/0411/2011 - Proposed development at Boughton-under-Blean and Dunkirk Primary School, School Lane, Boughton-Under-Blean, Faversham, Kent, ME13 9AW

Kent County Council is applying to the County Planning Authority for planning permission for the retention of the 3 no. existing mobile classrooms. The proposed development may affect the setting of a public right of way.

You may view this application at Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT or at the Faversham Area Office, Alexander Centre, Preston Street, Faversham.

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

KCC/DO/0415/2011 - Proposed development at Temple Ewell Primary School, 3 - 4 Brookside, Temple Ewell, Dover, Kent, CT16 3DT.

Kent County Council is applying to the County Planning Authority for planning permission for retention of the existing single classroom mobile unit. The proposed development is near to the Temple Ewell Conservation Area and could affect its character and/or appearance and could also affect the setting of a listed building. The proposed development could also affect a public right of way.

You may view this application at Dover District Council, Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, Kent, CT16 3PJ or at Dover Gateway, Castle Street, Dover.

KCC/TW/0421/2011 - Proposed development at School Lodge, Cranbrook School, Waterloo Road, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 4JD.

Governors of Cranbrook School are applying to the Kent County Council for planning permission for the proposed demolition of modern extension which forms part of the house masters accommodation and construction of a new extension to form house masters accommodation to the rear of School Lodge (revised application). The proposed development is within the Cranbrook Conservation Area and may affect its character and/or appearance, and also may affect the setting of a listed building.

You may view this application at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, 8 Grosvenor Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2AB.

Alternatively, details of all applications can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications or at our offices in Maidstone at the address below during all reasonable office hours.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to planning.applications@kent.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons.

Sharon Thompson
Head of Planning Applications Group
Kent County Council
Dated: 23 October 2011

Kent County Council

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

11/03045/HOUSE **East Court The Green, Brenchley**
- Extensions and alterations (CA)

11/02963/FUL **4 Nevill Park Royal Tunbridge Wells, Broadwater**
- Conversion from residential care home (Class C2) to residential use (C3) comprising a principal residence on ground, first and second floors and a separate self-contained basement flat with windows to replace doors at lower ground floor south and east elevations (CA)

11/03032/FULMJ **Tunbridge Wells Garden Centre Eridge Road, Broadwater**
- Demolition of two-storey building and erection of a single-storey extension, to include reorganisation of parking (CA)(MAJOR)

11/03084/HOUSE **Knowles Bank Half Moon Lane, Capel**
- Replacement conservatory (PROW)

11/02711/HOUSE **18 Hartley Court Gardens Cranbrook, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Single storey side extension with loft rooms (LB)

11/03013/FUL **Dulwich Preparatory School Course Horn Lane, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Two storey extension onto the schools existing dining hall (LB)

11/02805/FUL **Lonsdale House 7 - 9 Lonsdale Gardens, Culverden**
- Two-storey office extension (CA)

11/02983/FUL **13 Dudley Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden**
- Conversion of an existing dwelling into two flats consisting of a two bedroom flat and a one bedroom flat with french doors to basement bay (CA)(LB)

11/03060/FUL **OS Plot 2209 Ayleswade Lane, Frittenden**
- Steel frame agricultural building with solar panel roof (LB)

11/02341/FUL **Rowan Cottage Attwaters Lane, Hawkhurst**
- Removal of rotten/damaged fencing and replace with a stronger fence, both internally within the site and to the boundary (LB)

11/03074/LBC **The Coach House Broadford, Horsmonden**
- Listed building consent - french doors to existing window opening. Replacement fireplace and surround (LB)

11/02786/HOUSE **Chequers Oast The Broadway, Lamberhurst**
- Alterations to existing open barn (CA)(LB)

11/02964/LBC **Bewkes Hog Hole Lane, Lamberhurst**
- Listed Building Consent - (A) Installation of wood-burning central heating boiler and antique reclaimed radiators; (B) Repair or replace two timbers in the old part of house; (C) Rebuild a gable-end wall and single pitched garden room roof (LB)

11/02418/LBC **Mile Oak Farm Mile Oak Road, Paddock Wood**
- Listed Building Consent: Two storey garage extension with living space above and dormer window to south elevation (LB)

11/03028/FUL **Pearsons Corner Willow Lane, Paddock Wood**
- Extension of time: Demolition of existing chalet bungalow and construction of replacement dwelling (TW/08/01116 refers) (LB)

11/02994/FUL **Flat 2 49 Frant Road, Pantiles & St Marks**
- Conservatory (CA)

11/02979/HOUSE **Edge Hill Camden Park, Park**
- Loft conversion (CA)

11/03015/FUL **68 Calverley Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park**
- New shop front including alteration to doorway entrance (retrospective) (CA)

11/03069/FUL **Malthouse Farm Queen Street, Sandhurst**
- Extension of time - Conversion of an existing redundant barn into a single family dwelling, together with a new vehicle and pedestrian access and associated landscaping (TW/08/04033 refers) (LB)

11/03039/HOUSE **Middlehouse Langton Road, Speldhurst**
- Timber frame garden studio with 600mm wide low level decking to sides mounted on removable precast concrete foundations (LB)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS
Dated: 22 October 2011

THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Town and Country Planning Act
Notice of Applications

MA/11/1018/N - 42 - 44, EARL STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1PS - An application for listed building consent for creation of an opening in the first floor for installation of new hoists, removal of an existing first floor rear window and replacement with a single outward opening door and alterations to internal layout approved under Listed Building Consent MA/10/2169. **Reason: 3**

MA/11/1134/S - ST HELENS MONTESSORI SCHOOL, LOWER ROAD, EAST FARLEIGH, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 0JT - Change of use of agricultural land to garden land, construction of a tennis court and relocation of entrance gates. **Reason: 1**

MA/11/1417/N - LITTLE ORCHARD, CHURCH LANE, BEARSTED, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 4EF - Revision of siting of double garage adjacent to the northern boundary of the site (amendment to planning permission MA/10/2189). **Reason: 2**

MA/11/1465/N - THE OLD COTTAGE, SUTTON STREET, BEARSTED, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 4HP - Erection of detached garage. **Reason: 1**

MA/11/1473/S - LAND ADJACENT TO BRYHER, DAWK'S MEADOW, HEADCORN, KENT, TN27 9NJ - Erection of 1 detached 4 bedroom chalet bungalow. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/11/1500/S - HIGHFIELD HOUSE, MAIDSTONE ROAD, MARDEN, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 9AG - Conversion of workshop and 50% of open-fronted store to ancillary accommodation to main dwelling (rest of open-fronted store to be removed). **Reason: 1**

MA/11/1522/N - 37, UNION STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1ED - Extension and alterations to facilitate change of use from A1 (Retail) to mixed use of A3/A5 use (Restaurant/Takeaway) with vent duct. **Reason: 2**

MA/11/1570/S - 4, UPPER CRISBROOK COTTAGES, CAVE HILL, TOVIL, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 6DU - Creation of paved parking area to side of dwelling and retaining wall. **Reason: 1**

MA/11/1582/S - THE OLD BARN, FANT FARM, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME16 8DE - Conversion of attic space to music room/study. installation of conservation roof lights to hip end of main roof, installation of new window to west elevation and new glazed screen to entrance hall (resubmission of MA/11/1064). **Reason: 1**

MA/11/1602/S - THE CHESTNUT TREE, BENOVER ROAD, YALDING, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME18 6EX - Erection of a garden room. **Reason: 1**

MA/11/1603/N - BEARSTED HOUSE, THE GREEN, BEARSTED, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 4EB - Retrospective application for erection of two pairs of entrance gates. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/11/1604/N - BEARSTED HOUSE, THE GREEN, BEARSTED, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 4EB - Retrospective application for listed building consent for the erection of two pairs of entrance gates. **Reason: 3**

Reasons for advertisement key:
1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.

MAIDSTONE Borough Council

Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Wednesday 8.30am to 5.30pm, Thursday 8.30am to 7pm, Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **6th November 2011**, quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated**: 23rd October 2011

MARRIAGE LICENCES

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **The Pegwell Bay Hotel, 81 Pegwell Road, Ramsgate**

Applicant: **Francis Thorley**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration
Regulatory Services
First Floor, Invicta House,
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX

To advertise in this section 01303 817150

PLANNING

Planning applications

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990
Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

CA/11/01299/FUL: 24 High Street, Bridge, CT4 5JT Erection of detached dwelling. **Applicant: Mr K Elliott** Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01308/FUL: 130 High Street, Herne Bay, CT6 5NG Conversion of first floor office to a self-contained flat and associated external alterations. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs French** Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01178/FUL: Dennes House, Kake Street, Waltham, CT4 5SD Installation of ground mounted solar PV array. **Applicant: Mr Packer** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.

CA/11/01552/LB: Rattington House, Rattington Street, Chartham, CT4 7JG Replacement door and frame. **Applicant: Dr Joanna Collyer** Reason: Work to a listed building.

CA/11/01569/FUL: 10 New Street, Herne Bay, CT6 5AH External alterations. **Applicant: Mr Mallick** Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01583/FUL: 175 Stanstead Street, Chartham, CT4 7QP Demolition of porch and erection of a single-storey extension to front and side of dwelling. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Greshoff** Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01557/FUL: 29 Hospital Lane, Canterbury, CT1 2PE Single-storey extension to rear of dwelling. **Applicant: Mr Bennett** Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01588/LB: St Alphege Church, Palace Street, Canterbury Internal alterations to provide glazed timber screen, installation of timber partition screen, remodelling of w/c's and kitchen, raise floor level to side existing front, ramped access to Palace Street and alterations to escape doors. **Applicant: Governors of The King's School** Reason: Work to a listed building.

CA/11/01579/FUL: 15 Hackington Road, Tyler Hill, Hackington, CT2 9NF Single-storey extension to front, two-storey extension to side and alterations to roof of dwelling. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Barter** Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01586/FUL: St Alphege Church, Palace Street, Canterbury Internal alterations to provide glazed timber screen, installation of timber partition screen, remodelling of w/c's and kitchen, raise floor level to side existing front, ramped access to Palace Street and alterations to escape doors. **Applicant: Governors of The King's School** Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01700/FUL: 16-18 Oxford Street, Whitstable, CT5 1DD Creation of six window openings in side (south) elevation. **Applicant: J D Wetherspoon PLC** Reason: Conservation area.

Any representations should be sent in writing to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW or e-mailed to **development.control@canterbury.gov.uk** to arrive on or before **Monday 14 November 2011**.

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at: **www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc**

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration
Friday 21 October 2011

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Including family announcements in partnership with the Kent registration service

To register Births, Marriages and Deaths contact the Kent registration service on 0845 824 7400

For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday 01303 817150

BIRTHS

COOPER
Welcome to the World our beautiful daughter, Juno Mae Lim, on 4th October 2011. Proud parents Robert and Victoria.

DAVIES
Neil and Katie Davies of Tunbridge Wells are proud to announce the birth of their second daughter Kayla Lucie born 8th September 2011 weighing 6lb 8oz

FRY
Peter and Denise Fry celebrate the birth of their Daughter Constance Denise on 28th September 2011.

HODSON
James and Claire of Whitstable celebrate the birth of their son Henry on 28th September 2011 weighing 7lbs 8oz. Little brother to Charlie and Millie.

HUSSAINI
Raza and Hayley of Tunbridge Wells are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Alia Yazmin Hussaini born 7th October 2011 weighing 6lb 5oz.

MARR
Maisy-Jane born on 6th October 2011, weighing 6lbs 2oz. Daughter to Karley and Dominic in Ditton.

RACKLEY
Adam and Kelly celebrate the birth of their daughter Millie on 6th October 2011.Precious sister for Jasmine,Abbie and Brandon.

SCHROEDER
Andreas and Nana are very happy to announce the birth of their beautiful baby Sophia Schroeder who was born at 22.08pm on the 14th September and weighed 3.86kg.

STEWARD
Suzie and Andy are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their beautiful daughter, Darcey Katherine, on 29th September 2011. Darcey was born at 1.18pm and weighed 8lbs. A new sister for Erin and Bertie.

WHITING
Joanna Smith-Whiting and Gavin Whiting of Margate celebrate the birth of their son Zachary David Clive Whiting on 21st September 2011.

DEATHS

BAKER
Vera Margaret Baker died peacefully on 11th October in Maidstone Hospital aged 91. Dear Aunt of Ian and Vera. Funeral service 2.45 at Vinters Park on 26th October. Family flowers only any donations to Help the Heroes via Sears at Barming.

GEBHARDT
Gunter Gebhardt died peacefully at the Heart of Kent Hospice on 13th October. For Funeral details please contact Clarks of Snodland. Sadly missed by all his friends and family.

KIRKBANK
Kirkbank Hilda 98 Years old. Passed away 13th October 2011 at Walmer. A much missed mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

JAN STEPTOE
With great Sadness, the family of Jan Steptoe (nee Randall) wife of Norman Smith announce her sudden passing on 18th October 2011. Funeral arrangements to be advertised.

PREMISES/ GOODS LICENCES

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE
Martin Clive Gliderwell trading as MTRANS of 23 Birkdale Road, Abbeywood, London SE2 9BU is applying to change an existing licence as follows. To add an operating centre to keep 1 goods vehicle and 1 trailer at ETWL Ltd, Durable House Business Centre, Crabtree, Manorway South, Belvedere, Kent. DA17 6AB.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds. LS9 6NF stating their reasons , within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

I **Krzysztof Kapron** are applying for a new Premises Licence at the TWIST Bistro, 6 Railway Street, Chatham, ME4 4JL.

My application is made to Medway Council Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, ME4 4TR

I am applying for the following licensable activities: **Sale of Alcohol (10am-10pm)**

Should you wish to make representations to the Council it must be in writing and/or you can view my application by contacting the Council on **01634 337 107** or **337 108** by 08/11/11

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £5,000.

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY & VILLAGE GREENS

PROW - Borough of Ashford

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH AW306 IN THE PARISH OF KINGSNORTH

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH AW306) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984, SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath AW306, between (NGR TR 012 392) the entrance to Furley Park Primary School and (NGR TR 013 389) of the junction with Public Bridleway AW373 (near Poppy Mead) from 28th October 2011.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before 24th December 2011.

The path is to be closed to enable the completion of surface improvements and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route is via the entrance to Furley Park Primary School, Read Crescent, Bluebell Road and Poppy Mead and will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact Colin Finch

PROW - District of Sevenoaks

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF MODIFICATION ORDER WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF KENT

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH SR736, RIVERHEAD) DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER 2010

On 6 October 2011 the Kent County Council confirmed the above Order.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to modify the Definitive Map and Statement for the area by adding Public Footpath SR736 which commences on Maidstone Road. At this point there is a set of staggered barriers. The path runs in a southerly direction for 39.5 metres (between the Points A-B-C-D), then south south-easterly thence east north-easterly for 32.5 metres (between the Points D-E-F). Between the Points E-F there is a connection to Church Field. The path then continues to run in a south south-easterly direction for 203 metres (between the Points F-G-H). The path continues in a south south-easterly direction, thence west south-westerly direction for 51.0 metres to its connection with St Mary's Church Yard (between the Points H-I). Please see Part II of the Order Schedule for the Schedule of widths.

All distances are approximate, all directions are general.

A copy of the Order as confirmed and Map may be seen free of charge during normal office hours at the offices of Sevenoaks District Council, PO Box 183, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1HG or at the Kent County Council, Countryside Access Service, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. Copies of the Order and Map may also be purchased there.

This Order came into force on 6 October 2011, but if a person aggrieved by the Order desires to question the validity thereof or of any provision contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of Section 53(3)(c)(i) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, or that any of the requirements of Schedule 15 to the Act have not been complied with in relation to the confirmation of the Order, he or she may, under Paragraph 12 of Schedule 15 to the Act, within 42 days from 23 October 2011 make an application for the purpose to the High Court.

PROW - Borough of Tunbridge Wells

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF MODIFICATION ORDER WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF KENT

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH WC73 (PART) CRANBROOK) DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER 2011

On 6 October 2011 the Kent County Council confirmed the above Order.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to modify the Definitive Map and Statement for the area by deleting that length of Public Footpath WC73 which commences at NGR TQ 7696 3765 (Point A), 172 metres north north east of its connection with the A262 and runs in a northerly direction to the western side of the boundary. After 24 metres the path crosses an east-west boundary (Point B, NGR TQ 7696 3781) and continues to run to the western side of the boundary in a north through north easterly direction for 113 metres to its connection with the unaffected length of Public Footpath WC73 at NGR TQ 7697 3778 (Point B) and adding that length of Public Footpath WC73 which commences at NGR TQ 7696 3765 (Point A), 172 metres north north east of its connection with the A262 and runs in a northerly direction for 25 metres. At this point the path crosses the east west boundary (Point X, NGR TQ 7697 3767) and continues to run in a northerly direction to the eastern side of the boundary for 109 metres to its connection with the unaffected length of Public Footpath WC73 at NGR TQ 7697 3778 (Point B). The Footpath has a width of 2.0 metres except at NGR TQ 7697 3770 (Point Z) where the width decreases to 1.8 metres for a distance of 1.0 metres.

All distances are approximate, all directions are general.

A copy of the Order as confirmed and Map may be seen free of charge during normal office hours at The Tunbridge Wells Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2AB or at the Kent County Council, Countryside Access Service, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. Copies of the Order and Map may also be purchased there.

This Order came into force on 6 October 2011, but if a person aggrieved by the Order desires to question the validity thereof or of any provision contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of Section 53(3)(c)(i) or (ii) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, or that any of the requirements of Schedule 15 to the Act have not been complied with in relation to the confirmation of the Order, he or she may, under Paragraph 12 of Schedule 15 to the Act, within 42 days from 23 October 2011 make an application for the purpose to the High Court.

Countryside Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XX

Dated: 23rd October 2011

The above notice(s) may be provided in other formats

For further information, please contact Kent Countryside Access Service, on 08458 247 800 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess

Kent County Council

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Ashford

A28 ASHFORD ROAD, HIGH HALDEN (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on A28 Ashford Road, High Halden, on or after 28 October 2011 for up to 3 nights (excluding Sunday), between 7.30 pm and 5.00 am.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of Sunnydale.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Church Hill and Cripple Hill.

The alternative route is via Church Hill, Plurenden Road, Bethersden Road and Woodchurch Road.

BLIND LANE, MERSHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of telegraph pole replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Blind Lane, Mersham, on or after 9 November 2011 for up to 3 days, between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm.

The road will be closed between the railway bridge and Boyes Farm.

The alternative route is via Kingsford Street, The Street and Church Road.

A292 HYTHE ROAD, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway surfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on A292 Hythe Road, Ashford, on or after 27 October 2011 for up to 2 nights between 9.00 pm and midnight, or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Dering Road and Gordon Close.

The One-way Traffic Orders in respect of Star Road, Wallis Road and Dering Road will be suspended to allow access / exit.

The alternative route is via A292 Mace Lane, A2042 Wellesley Road, Station Road, Beaver Road, Romney Marsh Road, A2070 Bad Munstereifel Road, Willesborough Interchange and A292 Hythe Road.

Please not these dates differ from those initially publicised.

POUND LANE, BRABOURNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of the installation of a new electricity supply cable, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Pound Lane, Brabourne, on or after 7 November 2011 for up to 5 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Canterbury Road and Granary Court Road.

The alternative route is via Canterbury Road, Plain Road and Pound Lane (Pound House Road).

A2042 ROMNEY MARSH ROAD, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway surfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on A2042 Romney Marsh Road, Ashford, on or after 13 November 2011 for up to 5 nights, between 9.00 pm and 5.00 am, as shown below.

The road will be closed in both directions from the junction with A2070 Bad Munstereifel Road to the junction with B2229 Norman Road / Kimberley Way (Designer Outlet Centre), and also southbound from the junction with New Town Road.

The alternative route for through traffic is via Station Road, Wellesley Road, Mace Lane, Hythe Road, Willesborough Interchange, A2070 Bad Munstereifel Road, Romney Marsh Road, Malcolm Sargent Road, Wotton Road, Kingsnorth Road and B2229 Norman Road.

The Designer Outlet Centre roundabout will be closed in 2 phases, to ensure access to the Designer Outlet Centre and 24-hour supermarket is maintained.

HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury

A2050 LONDON ROAD ROUNDABOUT, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on the A2050 London Road Roundabout, Canterbury, between 29 October and 3 November 2011 inclusive (except Sunday).

Works will be carried out between 7.00 pm and 2.00 am, with the road re-opened outside these hours.

London Road Roundabout will be closed in 2 phases between the junctions with Rheims Way and Harbledown By-pass, with the phasing advised on site.

When the northern section is closed, London Road will be closed at the junction with the roundabout.

The alternative route is via Rheims Way, St Dunstan's Street and London Road.

When the southern section of the roundabout is closed, Knight Avenue will be closed, with limited managed access, but long delays are likely.

Traffic on the section of the roundabout that remains open will be controlled by temporary traffic lights.

A28 ST GEORGE'S ROUNDABOUT, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on A28 St George's Roundabout, Canterbury, from 4 November to 9 November 2011 inclusive (except Sunday), between 8.00 pm and 2.00 am.

The roundabout will be closed in 2 halves, as signposted on site

St George's Roundabout - south east (cinema) side

A28 St George's Roundabout will be closed at the junction with St George's Place

A28 Broad Street / Lower Bridge Street will be closed westbound from the junction with Lady Wootton's Green to St George's Roundabout.

St George's Place will be closed for its entire length.

Lady Wootton's Green will be closed westbound only (i.e. towards the ring road).

Monastery Street will become one-way southbound only, from the junction with Lady Wootton's Green to the junction with Longport.

Longport will become one-way eastbound only, between the junctions with Monastery Street and Lower Chantry Lane.

The one-way Traffic Order in respect of Dover Street will be suspended.

The alternative route is via Lady Wootton's Green, Monastery Street, Longport, Lower Chantry Lane, A2050 New Dover Road and Old Dover Road.

Local diversions will be in place for side roads, as signposted on site.

St George's Roundabout - north west (bus station) side

A28 St George's Roundabout will be closed eastbound only between the junctions with Upper Bridge Street and Lower Bridge Street.

Upper Bridge Street will be closed east bound.

The alternative route is via A28 Rhodaus Town, Pin Hill, A290 Rheims Way, St Peter's Place, St Dunstan's Street, North Lane, B2248 St Stephen's Road, Kingsmead Road, A28 Tourtel Road, Military Road, Broad Street and Lower Bridge Street.

The traffic restrictions limiting the use of St Georges Lane to buses and taxis only will be suspended.

FORD ROAD, HERNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of water mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Ford Road, Herne, on or after 7 November 2011 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of Claver House.

The alternative route is via Ford Hill, Heart in Hand Road and Margate Road.

SEA VIEW ROAD, HERNE BAY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of remedial carriageway resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Sea View Road, Herne Bay, on or after 25 October 2011 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Beltinge Road and Reculver Road.

The alternative routes are

Southbound via Beltinge Road and Cliff Avenue

Northbound via Reculver Road. Grange Road, Landon Road and Beltinge Road.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford

POWDER MILL LANE- (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Powder Mill Lane, Wilmington outside Springfield.

The Order will become effective on 7th November 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence on 13th November 2011 and last 1 day. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Darrenth Road, Princess Road, Lowfield Street and Hawley Road

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate Access to over head Network cabling for new connection.

HIGHWAYS - District of Dover

MILL ROAD, DEAL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Mill Road, Deal, on or after 24 October 2011 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed to the north of the junction with Hamilton Road.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Hamilton Road and Sycamore Drive.

The alternative route is via Mill Road, B2056 Manor Road, St Leonard's Road, A58 London Road and Allenby Avenue.

RICHBOROUGH ROAD, ASH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of water mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Richborough Road, Ash, on or after 7 November 2011 for up to 5 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of Pott's Farm.

The alternative route is via Richborough Road, Cop Street Road, Cop Street, A257 Ash By-pass, Hills Court Road and Cooper Street Drove.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Cop Street Road / Lower Goldstone and Cooper Street Drove.

Every effort will be made to maintain access for residents whenever it is safe to do so.

SANDWICH ROAD, EYTHORNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to install and new frame and cover in the carriageway, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Sandwich Road, Eythorne, on or after 26 October 2011 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of number 33.

The alternative route is via Green Lane, Monkton Court Lane, The Street and Sandwich Road.

WALDERCHAIN AND AGESTER LANE, DENTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of water mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Walderchain and Agester Lane, Denton, as shown below

WALDERCHAIN will be closed between the junctions with Agester Lane and Lodge Lees Road, from 7 November 2011 for approximately 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via Agester Lane and Lodge Lees Road

AGESTER LANE will be closed between the junctions with Walderchain and Snode Hill from 28 November 2011 for up to 4 weeks.

The alternative route is via Agester Lane, A260 The Street / Canterbury Road and Snode Hill.

The dates of the phases are approximate, and may vary according to weather and ground conditions.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (DEAN STREET, EAST FARLEIGH) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Dean Street, outside Frith Farm on or after Sunday 30th October 2011 when required for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Forge Lane, Vicarage Lane, B2010 Lower Road, Gallants Lane, B2163 Heath Road.

UK Power Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary to install a new electric supply. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Alen Piralic of Renteq Traffic Management Ltd on 01634 256291.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

CHAPMANS ROAD, SUNDRIDGE - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Chapmans Road, Sundridge from Church Road to the roundabout.

The Order will become effective on 24th October 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 2 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Church Road, A25 Main Road, New Road, Woodside Road, Chapmans Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate carriageway patching.

PILGRIMS WAY EAST, KEMSING - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Pilgrims Way East, Kemsing between The Landway and Cotmans Ash Lane.

The Order will become effective on 24th October 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 25th October 2011 and last 1 day. These

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council

restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: The Landway, West End, High Street, Heaverham Road, Cotmans Ash Lane and Pilgrims Way East.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate replacement of overhead power lines.

SPEEDGATE, FAWKHAM AND MUSSENDEN LANE, HORTON KIRBY AND SOUTH DARENTH - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council had made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Speedgate Hill, Fawkham between Three Gates Road and Valley Road, the order also includes the closure of Mussenden Lane, Horton Kirby and South Darenth between Three Gates Road and Lombard Street.

The Order for closure of Speedgate Hill will become effective on 24th October 2011,the order will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 1 week at Speedgate Hill , Fawkham.

The works at Mussenden Lane will commence on 3rd November 2011 and last 2 weeks on Mussenden Lane, Horton Kirby and South Darenth. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via:

Speedgate Hill - Three Gates Road, Scudders Hill and Valley Road.

Mussenden Lane - Three Gates Road, School Lane and Lombard Street

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate installation of a new low voltage mains cable.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks and the Borough of Tunbridge Wells

POUNDSBRIDGE LANE, PENSHURST - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Poundsbridge Lane, Penshurst between B2176 Penshurst Road and Poundsbridge Hill.

The Order will become effective on 24th October 2011. It will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months. The restriction will be effective when required and when the appropriate signage is in place. The works are planned to last for 10 days.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: B2176 Rogues Hill, B2188 High Street, B2188 Fordcombe Road, B2188 New Road, B2188 Saints Hill, B2188 Spring Hill, The Lane (Fordcombe Lane), Poundsbridge Hill.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate ditching, verge repair and patching works.

HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway

CANTERBURY ROAD, FOLKESTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of repairs to the railway bridge in Dover Road, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Canterbury Road, Folkestone, from 7 November 2011 for up to 2 weeks, as shown below.

The road will be closed at the junction with A260 Dover Road.

There will be no access between Canterbury Road and Dover Road, Monday to Friday nights, between 8.00 pm and 5.00 am.

The alternative route is via Princess Street, Alexandra Street and A260 Dover Road.

HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 - SECTION 116 STOPPING UP OF LAND AT LOWER SANDGATE ROAD, FOLKESTONE

I AM GIVING NOTICE THAT the Kent County Council propose to make an application to the Magistrates sitting at Canterbury Magistrates Court on 29th November 2011 at 10am for an Order under Section 116 of the Highways Act 1980 to extinguish highway rights on the grounds that they are unnecessary on land at Lower Sandgate Road, Folkestone as shown in red on the plan on deposit.

A copy of this notice and the plan referred to are on deposit, and can be seen during normal office hours, at the main reception of Kent Highway Services at Sessions, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XQ and the offices of Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, CT20 2QY

If you require further information or would like to discuss this matter, please contact Traffic Schemes & Member Highway Fund at Kent Highway Services in writing at the address given below, or by telephone on 08458 247 800 (24 hour contact centre).

HIGHWAYS - District of Swale

A299 THANET WAY, GRAVENEY WITH GOODNESTONE (50 MPH SPEED LIMIT) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of of Highways Agency resurfacing works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to impose a temporary mandatory speed limit of 50 mph on the A299 Thanet Way, Graveney with Goodnestone, on or after 7 November 2011 for up to 5 nights or until the works have been completed.

The section of A299 Thanet Way affected is on the London-bound carriageway from a point approximately 170 metres north-east of the junction with Staple Street / Whitstable Road for a distance of 900 metres, to where the road becomes the M2 Motorway.

This is in conjunction with a closure of the London-bound on-slip between Brenley Corner Roundabout and the M2 Motorway for re-surfacing.

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

MONKTON ROAD, MINSTER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of remedial repairs to the road surface, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Monkton Road, Minster, on or after 24 October 2011 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the junction with Prospect Road.

The alternative route is via Monkton Road, Monkton Street, Willetts Hill, A299 Canterbury Road West and Tothill Street.

A254 RAMSGATE ROAD, MARGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

For the safety of the public and workforce during railway bridge repairs, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on A254 Ramsgate Road, Margate, in the vicinity of the railway bridge.

The planned closure times are
26 October at 11.00pm until 27 October at 7.00 am
31 October at 11.00 pm until 1 November at 7.00 am

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Connaught Road and Queens Avenue.

The alternative routes are

Northbound via B2052 College Road, A255 St Peter's Road and Ramsgate Road

Southbound via (A255 Grosvenor Gardens, High Street) St Peter's Road, B2052 College Road, and Ramsgate Road.

READING STREET, BROADSTAIRS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Reading Street, Broadstairs, on or after 7 November 2011 for up to 4 weeks, or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via Beacon Road, Grange Road and Callis Court Road.

The road will be closed from the vicinity of number 17 to the vicinity of number 42.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (ASHES LANE, HADLOW) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Ashes Lane between A26 Tonbridge Road and High House Lane on or after Wednesday 26th October 2011 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via A26 Tonbridge Road, Cuckoo Lane, Higham Lane, Ashes Lane.

BT Openreach apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary for cabling. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Rachel Cross on 0870 050079.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (BUTCHERS LANE, MEREWORTH) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Butchers Lane between numbers 240 and 250 on or after Monday 24th October 2011 for a period of up to 5 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Beech Road, Beauflighter Road, A228 Malling Road, The Street, Butchers Lane.

UK Power Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for a new electrical supply. Should you require any further information for these works, please contact Scott Davis on 01732 783986.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (TUDELEY LANE, TONBRIDGE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Tudeley Lane at The Priory Mill Bridge on or after Monday 24th October 2011 for a period of up to 6 months or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Tudeley Lane, A2014 Pembury Road, A26 Woodgate Way, Five Oak Green Road.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to demolish and rebuild the Priory Mill Bridge for highway safety. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Geoff Blatchford on 01622 666000.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tunbridge Wells

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (LANGTON ROAD, SPELDHURST) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Langton Road outside The Glebe House on or after Sunday 30th October 2011 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Langton Road, Speldhurst Road, The Green, A264 Langton Road/Bishops Down/Mount Ephraim, A26 St Johns Road, Speldhurst Road, Etherington Hill, Speldhurst Hill.

Southern Gas Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary to install a new service. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Amy Colvin on 01689 881315.

Katherine Kerswell
Group Managing Director
Invicta House
County Hall,
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ

Dated 23rd October 2011

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council



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Quote MR12-KOS

Was £429
Now £399pp

December 9 to 12, 2011







Our big-little-adventure combines the glamour of the French Riviera and Monaco with the thrill of European rail travel. Travelling by Eurostar, then the swift TGV to Nice on the French Riviera, the journey promises to be as exciting as the places we will visit. Monaco really sparkles at Christmas time as twinkling lights and festive decorations create a magical air. Nice hosts a charming Christmas Market with chalets offering regional handicrafts and gifts, including Provençal specialities such as honey, lavender and nativity figurines.

INCLUDED:

- Escorted throughout
- Return rail travel from London St Pancras to Nice, southern France (Ebbsfleet & Ashford on request)
- 3 nights, 3 star hotel B&B in Nice
- Return coastal train Nice to Monaco

Warner Drinks Inclusive Christmas Party

For over 40s only

Norton Grange Resort, Isle of Wight - self drive

3 nights, semi-all-inclusive

Quote NX11-KOS

Was £209
Now £199pp

November 25 to 28, 2011







Come and join our exclusive, annual Christmas party - for over 40s only - at Warner Norton Grange resort on Yarmouth seafront, Isle of Wight.

With a friendly, cosy atmosphere this popular Warner resort serves up a host of festive season treats and free drinks at a great value-for-money price.

INCLUDED:

- Free return Car Ferry - worth £40
- Free drinks from 3.30pm to 11pm Friday, 12 noon to 11pm Saturday & Sunday - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers
- Bed, breakfast & 3 course evening meals
- Mulled wine & mince pie on arrival
- 'Christmas' dinner & visit from Santa
- 'New Year's Eve' dinner & countdown party
- Cabaret entertainment & disco every night
- En-suite chalet - upgrades available
- Leisure facilities: Indoor pool & sauna



France & Folkestone

Burstin Hotel - self drive

3 nights half board plus a coach day-trip to France

Quote FF12-KOS

£119pp

9 & 16 December, 2011

Join us for a weekend break where you can relax and forget the stress of Christmas preparations.

Our self-drive break to the Grand Burstin Hotel on Folkestone's seafront includes a day trip to France by coach. This provides a great opportunity for some extra Christmas shopping, both on the ferry and in France

The Burstin is one of the UK's top entertainment hotels with live cabaret shows every night. The hotel has excellent leisure facilities, including an indoor pool & gym (£2.50 per day payable at the hotel).

INCLUDED:

- 3 nights ensuite hotel room
- 3 breakfasts & 3 dinners
- nightly entertainment
- Day trip to France by coach (valid passport required)

Ferry crossings can be weather dependent and are liable to cancellation in extreme conditions.



4-star Christmas in England

Honiley Court Hotel, Warwickshire - self-drive

3 nights, half-board-plus

Quote XC12-KOS

Only £199pp

24 to 27 December, 2011

If you're looking for a relaxed Christmas with light entertainment, then this break was designed for you. The charming Honiley Court Hotel is situated in the rural village of Honiley, Warwickshire. Dating back to the 16th century, the hotel retains many original features and character. All bedrooms are spacious and comfortable and have and en suite bathroom, tea/coffee making facilities, flatscreen TV, radio and hairdryer.

INCLUDED:

- 3 nights in a twin or double en-suite room
- 3 breakfasts, 3 dinners & Christmas lunch
- Entertainment

Add an extra night - 23 December for £50pp

ALSO AVAILABLE:

- South Coast Christmas at the Dolphin Hotel, Southampton **4 nights 23 to 27 December - was £279 Sale Price £249pp.**
- Peace & Quiet Christmas at the Waterloo Hotel, Crowthorne, Berks **4 nights 23 to 27 December - was £289 Sale Price £269pp.**



Warner Drinks Inclusive Carry on New Year Party

For over 40s only

Warner Bembridge Hotel, Isle of Wight - self drive

3 nights semi-all-inclusive

Quote BC1-KOS

WAS £239pp
SALE PRICE £189pp

Fri, 13 to 16 January, 2012

Extend your New Year celebrations at our Carry on New Year party at Warner's luxurious Bembridge Coast Hotel, on the Isle of Wight.

With a friendly atmosphere this popular Warner hotel serves up a host of seasonal treats and free drinks at a great value-for-money price.

INCLUDED:

- Free return Car Ferry - worth £40
- Free drinks from 3.30pm to 11pm Friday, 12 noon to 11pm Saturday & Sunday - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers
- Bed, breakfast & 3 course evening meals
- 'New Year's Eve' dinner & countdown party
- Nightly entertainment
- En-suite hotel room - upgrades available
- Leisure facilities: Indoor pool & sauna

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(T&C's below)

FEMALE likes theatre, cinema, music, seeks gent, 50-80 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 377915**

SERENE slim black attractive female, 37, friendly, likes reading, nature, theatre, music, WLTM genuine, caring, N/S gent, 34-47 to share laughter and life. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369411**

LYDIA quiet black female, slim, looking for love with nice guy. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376421**

I don't wanna be alone and unattached for another Xmas! Bev, attractive, big hearted, many interests, seeks male willing to take an interest in me! **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376593**

KAZ 32yr old intellectual mixed race female, likes gym, meals in/out, seeks reliable, honest male, 38-58yrs to get to know for ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376591**

NATALIE blonde blue eyed nurse, 39yrs medium build, no ties, life is good but I'm missing someone to love and lust after. Can you help? **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376589**

DONNA 26yrs, blue eyes, blonde, bored of spending nights in alone, looking for average looking male, 23-55yrs for TLC. Dads welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376563**

ANNETTE likes cinema, theatre, seeks male, 60-70 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387476**

JULIE pretty 38yr old Irish female who is lonely as new to the area, looking for male up to 65yrs for tactile companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374705**

JEANETTE big brown eyed busty fit size 10 with lots of interest, searching for a sincere man to share love and life with. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374703**

JENNY very young shy black female looking for reliable, genuine nice older man to help me become an attentive lover, 40-70yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374701**

HELLO I'm Jane, attractive, genuine, caring, intelligent, romantic and single at 38yrs, what are you waiting for? Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374677**

26YR old Indian princess looking for discreet older N/S professional male to make life a bit more interesting and share mutual companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 373089**

HI I'm Louise, an easygoing sensual slim blonde looking for someone to have fun with initially maybe more later. Call me. Any age/status. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 373009**

DEE blonde, mature, young looking, seeking sugar daddy, any offers? **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387722**

JANE 50, young at heart, GSOH, divorced, seeks male who wants to do something adventurous like travel the USA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387526**

LOOKING for company with someone who can restore my faith in the male species! Karen, sensual 36yr old brunette seeking genuine fun and frolics. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 377107**

LORRAINE single mum new to the area starting again, OHAC, GSOH, WLTM nice guy to cuddle up with and appreciate, maybe more. Single dad welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 377097**

LAURA slim attractive stylish feminine, GSOH looking for similar to enjoy good times with. Discretion expected/assured. Any age/status. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387902**

KAREN 58, 5ft 6ins, medium build, fun loving, romantic, caring, extrovert, seeks male of similar age for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 377095**

TALL long haired brunette, slim attractive, big green eyes, WLTM gent for mutual companionship, maybe leading to more. Age/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376559**

MIA attractive slim fit female looking for someone to put the spark back in my life, seeking fun, adventurous and passionate male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376557**

LINDA 68, N/S, likes nights in, meals out, holidays, GSOH, seeking a gent 60-70 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375651**

JANE passionate lady seeking unconventional young at heart male 35-50 for free spirited, open-minded fun and new experiences. Single dads welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375611**

LIBBY 36, newly single, no hangups, WLTM outgoing male to wine/dine and forever be mine. Don't miss out! Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375607**

TASHA 37, blonde tanned and very pretty, seeks well dressed older male with GSOH for fun meets, loving treats and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375605**

LESLIE 34yr old singleton, fun and vivacious looking for laughs/giggles with some great company. If you like the sound of me, pls call. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375579**

GEORGINA likes horses, dogs, walks, seeks male, 60-72 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386426**

LUCY bubbly attractive 32yr old blonde seeking similar naughty boy to share the good side of life with. Age/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 373109**

CLAIRE Gorgeous fun loving brunette, 29, 5ft 4ins, employed, OHAC, looking for manly male up to 45yrs for no strings good times and fine wine. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 373107**

CASSIE looking for good times, laughs, meals out with down to earth male, 30-65yrs who is looking for fun not commitment. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375577**

CAROL 39yrs attractive slim brunette just looking for genuine caring man for romance, meals in and maybe more. Any age. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375575**

JUDY 56, post op trans gender, seeks guy for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372269**

DEBS petite brunette, 38yrs, well travelled, loves food and good wine, WLTM affectionate male for nice times. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372219**

YOUNG looking petite female prepared to try anything once, looking for similar open-minded tactile guy for fun loving times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372217**

CAROLINE 31, Attractive, slim but curvy brunette, witty and fun, seeking relaxed, male for fun times together. Age/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 373007**

HI I am Marie, a pretty middle aged lonely divorcee missing male company seeking love and laughter with likeminded man. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 373003**

CHRISTINE attractive 49yr old female, N/S, caring, GSOH, genuine, seeks male partner of similar age to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 373997**

ANGELA divorced lady, seeking companion to share days out, cinema, meals etc. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387350**

LOVELY tall slim nurse, very caring and fun but missing that va-va-voom! Seeks adventurous male who's up for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374159**

FULL time vacancy arisen for open minded male seeking uncomplicated relationship with slim professional 39yr old female with wicked sense of humour. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374157**

LIFE begins at 40! Pam outgoing athletic brunette, tall, slender and attractive, WLTM older male with big personality for lots of fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374155**

LIDDY 28yr old genuine kind hearted girl looking for older male, 34-46yrs who can replace the other half of me that's missing. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375157**

ALICIA attractive petite female 22yrs, new to dating scene and area, loves nights in/out, WLTM male for adult fun. ACA. can accommodate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375135**

JENNI 36 slim pretty black female, seeks tall white male who is going to take care of me and be loved in return. Dads welcome 30-50yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375767**

KERRY 26yr old discreet attractive fit female who has been alone for far too long, looking for male 30-65yrs for convenient friendship and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375765**

JO bright bubbly attractive country loving lass, looking for solvent older male to have a really good time with. Is that you? ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375763**

DONNA lost my faith in men and looking for someone feisty to relight my fire, are you the one, call me, whatya got to loose? **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375705**

KELLY blue eyed 21yr old blonde looking for someone who knows how to treat a lady for fun times together, 30-50yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375703**

CHRIS attractive slim redhead seeks nice male to relax with, get to know and share a glass of wine and maybe a takeaway. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375701**

CHARLOTTE 30, sweet French female, long legs, sporty, fit and healthy, seeking well built, fit guy to share interests and show me new ones. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372687**

AMANDA cuddly 36yr old easygoing caring lonely female just looking for love with nice guy, 30-55yrs. Nothing ventured, nothing gained. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375133**

SASHA 28yr old beautiful surfer babe looking for fun initially, maybe more with fit confident male who can handle me. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375131**

CAROL slim, blue eyed attractive lady looking for fun friendship maybe more with open minded male happy to accommodate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374675**

KAREN 36, pretty blonde who is stuck in a rut looking for easygoing kinda guy for discreet romantic meals and fun drives out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374673**

CUDDLY lady 65, blue eyed blonde, 5ft 3ins, 65, N/S, GSOH, animal lover, drives, WLTM tall, well built, caring single male, 50-70. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371473**

SICK of always taking life so seriously, looking for uncomplicated fun times with happy outgoing male. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371545**

30'S female, easy-going, laidback, animal friendly, looking for that special person to share things with, any age/looks. Hope you call. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372233**

NICKY 47 slim, honest, loyal, seeks tall, dark haired man for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387586**

ELIZABETH independent, no ties, solvent, fit and healthy, looking for similar passionate male, any age/looks for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375161**

SANDRA green eyed slim brunette, loves to keep fit, very competitive, seeks reliable mature male who can look after me and be loved in return. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375159**

BLONDE young looking female, seeks older, generous guy to spoil her. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369413**

ACTIVE slim female 30yrs, easygoing, honest with GSOH and a passion for life looking for genuine man to fall for, 28-50yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370097**

AFFABLE serene black attractive female, slim, 37, friendly, likes reading, nature, theatre, music, WLTM genuine, caring, N/S gent, 34-47 to share laughter and life. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369411**

TALL slim auburn haired sincere female, 37, looking for genuine fun relationship with open-minded male, 40-65yrs. Must be able to accommodate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372055**

30'S female bored with staying in whilst everyone else goes out, looking for similar lonely heart, any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370063**

BUSTY nurse slim size 10, brunette, just looking for a bit of fun and good times with understanding nice younger man. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372685**

47YR old female, slim, seeks tall male for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372783**

VERY good looking Turkish female looking to meet male 29-45 for fun friendship. Looks/race/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370183**

ACTIVE solvent female with GSOH looking to start life again but this time be a lot more adventurous, care to join me? **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370181**

CONFIDENT fun female bored of spending time alone, looking for fun man to share lots of laughs and good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370177**

STRIKING blonde 22, green eyes, wicked sense of humour, discreet, lots of spare time at home, looking for open minded friendship 35-65. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367977**

YOUNG at heart lady with lots to offer Mr Right, looking for open-minded special male for adult fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370013**

DIVORCED lonely single mum, blue eyes, employed, OHAC, lots of interests, looking for someone to enjoy life with again. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370011**

33YR old slim curvy dark haired female with a GSOH, loves to spend time indoors and the simple things, WLTM similar male, 38-46yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370057**

I'M Gorgeous, lively and an outrageous flirt seeking a similar professional who thinks he can handle me, fun times guaranteed. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369223**

STUNNING full figured blonde nurse, 32, funny and romantic, WLTM uncomplicated, reliable male, 50-65yrs for companionship and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369221**

PAULA tactile and cuddly with blue eyes looking for someone nice who can appreciate a feminine sensual lady. Age/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 373585**

LISA 19 curvy brown eyed brunette looking for a fun relationship with caring male up to 67yrs who will appreciate and look after me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374131**

GENUINE racy female with a compassionate side looking for similar man to share lots of laughter and romantic nights in/out, 36-66yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370109**

PETITE 37yr old nurse with no ties looking for someone nice to spend some romantic time with, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370107**

QUIET genuine 53yr old female, GSOH, likes nights in/out, seeks 40-50yr old N/S male for friendship/LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386674**

FEMININE slim, curvy lady, 58, nice eyes/smile, seeks peace loving gent, 50-69 to share travel, theatre, home life and meaningful relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370943**

EM attractive full bodied lady, mild mannered, sensual nature, looking for happy times and loving future with appreciative man. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372659**

PETITE female, likes music, dancing, socialising, seeks fun, kind male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371665**

CLASSY lady, slim, pretty, young looking graduate, mixed race 38, London, seeking a sugar daddy to spoil and pamper me. Discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367031**

BIG busty brunette, blue eyes, seeks sexy fella for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386430**

ATTRACTIVE slim blonde who enjoys the simple life seeks understanding older male for fun casual relationship/friendship initially, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371547**

ATTRACTIVE cuddly, genuine, blue eyed blonde, 5ft 3ins, 65, N/S, GSOH, dog owner, animal lover, WLTM tall, well built, animal loving male, 50-69 for friendship, romance, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371467**

SUSAN 38, affectionate outgoing medium built brunette, seeking tall male with GSOH for cosy evenings in with a good wine. Status/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374135**

LINDA slim green eyed brunette WLTM independent, good looking, fun, outdoorsy type guy with no ties for easygoing relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374133**

SINGLE confident black female 32yrs, very attractive with a great body! Loves doing fun and interesting things, seeking a real man. Any race/age. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367999**

TALL slim brunette with baby blue eyes seeks strong, sensitive male who knows how and wants to enjoy life too. Can travel/accommodate. 33-47yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367979**

FIT female 39, enjoys good conversation, laughs and walking bare foot in the grass, WLTM similar sensual male for tactile friendship/more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372663**

SONYA 35, voluptuous, brown hair, blue eyes, 5ft 8ins, mum of 2, employed, seeks N/S male up to 46 with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. Children/animals welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368467**

DEBBIE 50, slim, genuine, caring, sincere, WLTM honest, reliable, interesting gent, 58-70 to share what life has to offer, companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 373713**

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SPONTANEOUS 50 something male, seeks partner for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388208**

THOMAS athletic, easygoing, likes sports, meals out, cinema, nights out, seeks female, 40-55. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388192**

DARREN 41, sincere, honest, loyal, caring, tall, dark, likes sports, seeks N/S female, 30-50. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 377957**

MARTIN 37, seeks slim female, 29-39 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388150**

CHARLES 50, 5ft 8ins, slim, active, likes travel, motor sport, seeks attractive, Oriental female, 30-38 for friendship and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388148**

ATTRACTIVE caring male, 37, likes most things, meals out, cinema, walks, seeks nice lady, 25-40 for good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388128**

5FT 9ins male, medium build, seeks female for adult fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388122**

JAMES professional, 50's, 5ft 10ins, well travelled, seeks sensual, feminine, slim lady, 35-52, any race. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376723**

LEE 28, easygoing, cheeky, good looking, dark hair, seeks female, 21-32 for fun times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388108**

PETER 56, 5ft 6ins, fair hair, blue eyes, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388102**

STEVE 36 funny, likes a laugh, few drinks at the weekend, easygoing, looking for special female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388010**

NIGEL 42, likes cinema, meals out, seeks similar female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387996**

WHITE male, 6ft 1ins, 38, blue eyes, medium build, shaved hair, likes music, seeks Indian/Asian lady for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 377273**

DEREK black male, seeking mature female for friendship and serious relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387986**

DAVID 58, professional, looking for an easygoing lady for a LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367157**

GERRY 5ft 4ins, medium build, blue eyes, likes gym, walks, cycling, holidays, dining in/out, seeks lovely female to share time with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376775**

WORTHING guy 30's, N/S, likes restaurants, seeking lady, N/S. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387886**

ROBERT 55, self employed, N/S, seeks slim lady, 50-65 for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387884**

DAVID 75, generous, homely, own flat, lonely, seeks female, 50-70 for companionship, possible LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375193**

MARK 37, 5ft 9ins, brown hair/eyes, seeks female, 26-40. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388040**

DAVID easygoing, personable 58, 6ft, slim, blue eyes, clean shaven, loyal, tactile, seeks female 30-55 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376467**

I'M the one! Young 60, GSOH, likes sea/countryside, short weekend breaks, dining in/out, phone now to hear more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376455**

TONY 31, caring, brown hair/eyes, seeks female, 21-45 to share time with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376313**

MAL 57, N/S, driver, tall, GSOH, truthful, honest, seeks female for LTR, any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376773**

JOHN 60, lonely, retired businessman, seeking mature lady for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376543**

MARK sincere, honest, sensitive, late 30's, slim, size 10 lingerie wearer, seeks sincere, slim female for friendship and fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376389**

MICHAEL 44, friendly, fun, seeking fun female for casual meets. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376321**

YOUNG 61yr old Bexhill man, 5ft 8ins, likes cats, cooking, travel, seeks female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387582**

TALL caring, considerate male, 52, no ties, seeks female, 42-52 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375177**

Gay Seeking

IF YOU'RE LOOKING to connect and chat with other men look no further TXT: **GAY601** to **65125** for 3 chat matches, fun and safe service.

Go online - www.localgaydate.co.uk

MALE clean shaven, N/S, seeking younger play mate for fun and games. Chichester. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365507**

BI male, 60, seeks male of similar age or younger. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385388**

YOUNG 62yr old bi male, easygoing, seeks male/bi couple for relaxed fun and games. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386768**

STEVE happy go lucky, seeks gay male for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374659**

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Gerry's setting a tough pace but loving every minute of it

SEE PAGE 43



BOUNTY TOWN

We take a look at the Maidstone property market

SEE PAGES 52-53

Kent Weekend



Deadly beauty

Forage for fungi and learn what's safe – and what's not (this isn't!) – to eat

SEE PAGE 48

PLUS: European Ballet brings the wonderful story of Coppelia to life - **stage and arts p51** Dining out on progress as an old favourite changes its spots - **restaurant review p44** A stylish little number from Alfa - **driving p63**







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Still walking on after all these years

His love of performing remains undiminished, but as Gerry Marsden, founder of legendary 60s stars Gerry and the Pacemakers reveals to **Joe Bill**, his band could have had a very different name...

WITH three number ones, 50 years' experience and a widely-known song under his belt, you could forgive Gerry Marsden if he decided to hang up the guitar and take a well-earned break.

But the frontman for 60s stars Gerry and The Pacemakers couldn't have retirement further from his mind.

He said: "I still love it. I have been touring for so long, it's my life. I get a great deal of joy out of it. Obviously my main joy is my family, but my second is touring.

"We are still touring seven months of the year and have just done Australia, New Zealand, Manila and are now back in the UK from September to November."

The 69-year-old still has the buzz for the live show and is delighted the band's songs have stood the test of time for modern audiences.

The Liverpudlian said: "The strange thing is we get people of 93 coming to the gigs, as well as youngsters of 16 who have been brought up with the music. Their grandmas played it to their children and then they have done the same.

"They come to me after the show and I always ask them if they have been dragged here by their parents. They say 'No, Gerry, we love the music, so we wanted to see the people who recorded it'. It's a nice buzz to still get the young people."

Marsden and his band were the first to bag three number ones from their first three singles, which included How Do You Do It? and I Like It.

The group were managed at the time by Beatles supremo Brian Epstein, and consequently had a friendly rivalry with the Fab Four. But Gerry had known one member long before the music scene.



He said: "The funny thing was that we knew the boys from years before, when we both had skiffle bands.They were called The Quarrymen and we had the Gerry Marsden Skiffle Group, so we were mates.

"But John Lennon was my best pal – we grew up together. When I think back now, we never, ever could have anticipated what happened.

"That they would become massive across the world, or us going off and conquering America – you could never conceive that idea. But to make a record and get the first three number ones in a row, we thought 'Bloody hell, what's going on?'.

"It was great and we toured together and we would chat and have a bit of a laugh. I miss John a great deal. But we still have a giggle whenever Paul meets up and we have a bit of a remembrance day. They were really good days."

Rather amusing is the story of how the Pacemakers got their name.

Originally, Marsden and the band were going to be called Gerry Marsden and the Mars Bars, but the chocolate company put a stop to it.

He said: "My father wrote to them, and they said no. So when we got our first number one, my father wrote to them again and said 'Do you remember that band? Well, they're number one in the charts now'.

"The publicity bloke wrote back and told us we could use the name all of a sudden. But never mind."

The Pacemakers name came after Marsden watched an athletics race on television and heard the term mentioned: "I told the boys and they liked it – it was as simple as that."

> **John Lennon was my best pal – we grew up together. When I think back now, we never could have anticipated what happened – that they would become massive, or us going and conquering the US**
>
> MARSDEN, ON LINKS WITH THE BEATLES

But one of the best-known reasons the band have stood the test of time is their 1963 hit You'll Never Walk Alone.

The song has become synonymous with the city of Liverpool and especially Liverpool Football Club, Marsden's beloved hometown team.

He said: "It is a song from the famous musical Carousel. It is when the guy dies and his wife is very upset. The song is saying 'yes he has gone to Heaven but you need to carry on and be strong'.

"The lyrics are beautiful. They are what made me record the song. I told the band and at the time we were playing rhythm and blues and rock and roll, so they said 'What?!'.

"I said it was a great ballad and we put an off-beat on it and some drums and the rest is history."

It soon got picked up by Liverpool FC supporters, who would chant it on the terraces of their home ground.

He said: "What they used to do at Anfield before kick-off was play the top 10 from the charts that week.

"When Walk Alone was number one, which it was for a few weeks, it played just before the kick-off. When it finished, they started the match, so then when the song dropped out of the top 10 they obviously didn't play it any more. But the fans were shouting 'Where's our song, where's our song?'. So the club had to put it back on again. From there it just got put on at every match just before kick-off.

"I was at the game where they did it for the first time – it was unbelievable. It still gives me a real buzz now when I go to see my team."

Gerry and The Pacemakers went on to release another hit synonymous with the North West, Ferry Across The Mersey.

And Marsden has vowed to keep touring as long as the fans come – and his wife goes with him.

He said: "She comes around the world with me. To Canada, America and Hawaii, but for some reason she doesn't come along when we play in Grimsby. I will let her off, though... she has been around England with me a fair few times already."

■ **Gerry and the latest incarnation of The Pacemakers are joined by The Searchers and the Sixties Gold Tour, which comes to Tunbridge Wells's Assembly Hall Theatre on Saturday, October 29. Their tour also heads to Chatham's Central Theatre on Wednesday, November 2, and Margate Winter Gardens on Thursday, November 3.**



To be included on this page, please email
features@kosmedia.co.uk

This gem still shines but loses a little sparkle in bigger venue

RESTAURANT REVIEW

DURING the past few years, for many the jewel in Whitstable's restaurant crown has not, as you might perhaps have expected, sat perched in a beachside location, or in the very heart of its bustling town centre. Instead, a five-minute stroll down the main street towards Canterbury brought you to Salt Marsh.

It was small, it was a bit cramped, it overlooked an accountants, but it had charisma and atmosphere by the bucket load.

What's more, it was unique. There was no menu and no price list. You entered blind and rather gave yourself over to the experience.

And it delivered. The food was fresh, seasonal and full of flavour.

Trying to book a table was always something that needed some serious pre-planning (a sure sign it was on to something good) and the hustle and bustle of close tables made it an often noisy but thoroughly enjoyable place to eat and drink. It was the locals' best-kept secret.

What's more, the fear over the final bill was dispelled when it turned up and was more than reasonable.

But last month it shut up shop... its owners instead taking over the tenancy of perhaps the town's most high-profile pub, The Duke of Cumberland and its commanding central position.

Salt Marsh, however, has gone with it – the pub's former brasserie now reinvented.

It's akin to a hotly-acclaimed young independent movie-director being signed up by a major Hollywood studio.

The question is, will the ability to do things on a bigger scale, reach a wider, mainstream audience and cash in on a huge promotional



push allow the place to keep the innate charm that made it so respected in the first place?

The answer is a cautious yes.

Salt Marsh remains something different. The restaurant is bigger, beautifully lit, with wooden floors, chunky tables and background music leaning towards the latino. You can also now sit without the person behind you constantly bashing into you when they pull out their chair.

The big glass doors open to provide an outside seating area – sprawling out to meet the outside courtyard of the pub, of which it sits almost as a separate entity with its own entrance.

The menu is still relayed via the staff – all of whom were friendly and efficient – and if you don't ask, then there will be no talk of money until you ask for the bill.

What's more, the food concept remains the same. The menu is tight: starters include old favourites like king prawns, mushrooms on toast, and meat or tuna balls; the main course pork chops, lamb, ribeye steak, eel or sea bream. If you don't eat meat or fish, you will struggle.

But for those who do, you will be rewarded.

The food, for the most part, remains delicious. Our mushrooms exuded a rich taste and flavour and the prawns looked like they were Olympic swimmers, such were their size and texture. The tuna balls, in truth, were rather tasteless despite the chilli sauce.

Ordering a selection to share is worthwhile – but the portions are big... although not as substantial as the main courses, which defy you to tackle them.

The pork chop was enormous, and the side dishes – sautéed potatoes, Mediterranean vegetables and butternut squash – enough to feed the most ravenous diner.

But when your only real complaint is the fact that the main meals look a little daunting, well, it feels rather mean.

With three starters, two main meals and a bottle of wine weighing in at £55 and your waistline all the bigger as a result, it's hard to find fault. (For those who find the lack of prices unsettling, the starters range from £5-£7, the main meals around the £12-£14 mark, ditto the wine). Chocolate brownies and home-made carrot cake await those brave enough to tackle dessert.

There was, however, a definite change in the atmosphere. It has lost a little of its sparkle, be that through a change in the clientele or simply that it's bigger and less intense.

Although it had set such a high bar, it was perhaps always going to struggle to replicate it on the more high-profile stage. It's still a box-office smash, but you cannot help but yearn for the nuts-and-bolts simplicity of its former incarnation.

But then you can't stand in the way of progress, and Whitstable's town-centre hub has a very significant new kid in its midst.

Chris Thomson

■ **Salt Marsh, The Duke of Cumberland**
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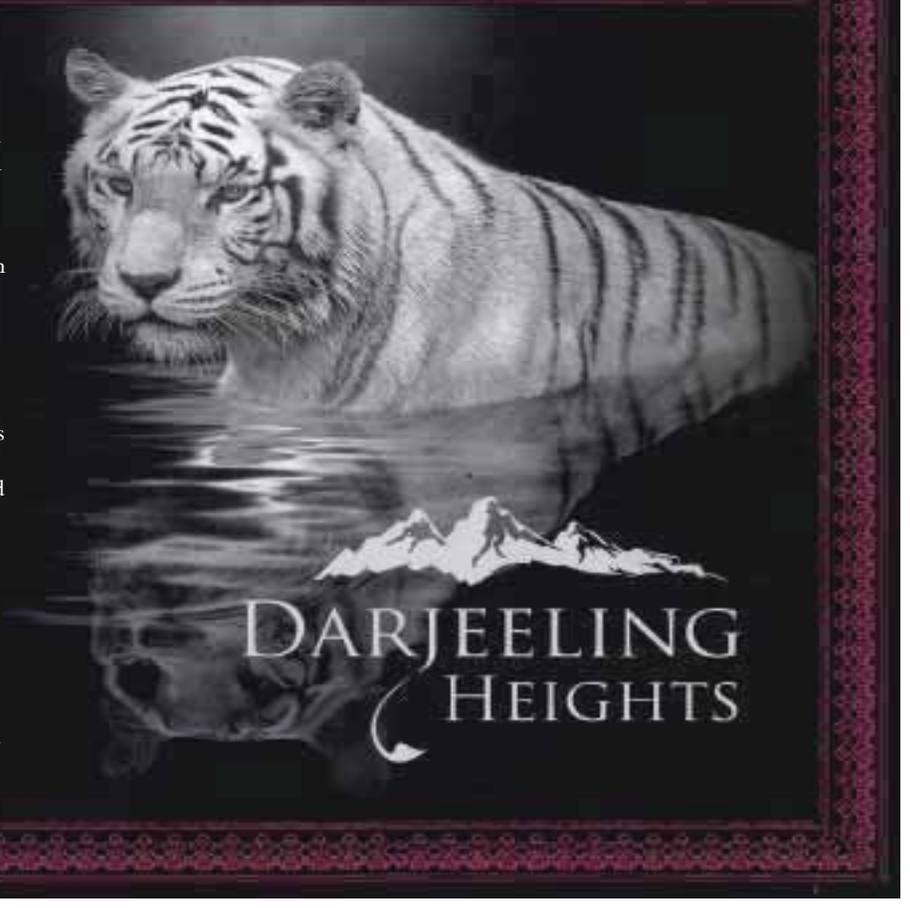
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Variety holds the key to our gourmet glee

NEW foods, flavours and cooking techniques are just some of the benefits of our British multicultural society. With new nationalities come new dishes and, inevitably, new restaurants.

A quick glance at the rolling hills of the North Downs, or the streets of the county's historic towns or quaint seaside resorts, and you could be forgiven for thinking that the only meal you could get is either a very British roast dinner or traditional fish and chips. You would be wrong.

Long gone are the days when an exotic meal out consisted of two choices... Chinese or Indian.

Kent is now blessed with a diverse range of foreign foods, including Mexican, Nepalese, Thai, Italian, French, Greek or even Russian restaurants.

Never before have so many nationalites had the traditional foods of their heritage available to us all, whenever we want them.

And that means that never before have there been so many options from which diners can choose.

The best thing for chefs in all of Kent's restaurants, no matter what nationality, is the range of local produce that can be harvested and used for so many wonderful dishes.

From the classically-British fisherman's pie to the exotic and spicy king-prawn Madras, from the gravy-covered roast beef to the chilli chicken fajita, Kent has both the ingredients and the know-how for all.

But just in case you are worried by the range of choices available or you just can't choose which continent to try out, here are six crackers.



Romney Spice
New Romney

Why here...
The award-winning Romney Spice restaurant offers a wide selection of mouthwatering Indian and English dishes, with a four-course set-meal menu on Monday and Tuesday at £9.95.

On the menu...
Monday to Wednesday sees a party deal for groups of six-plus for £11.50 per person. Whether you want succulent chicken, tender spicy lamb or a vegetarian speciality, there is something for everyone.

How to book...
High Street, New Romney phone: 01797 361000. Open midday-2pm and 6pm-11.30pm Sunday to Thursday and 6pm to midnight Friday and Saturday.





Christies
Birchington

Why here...
Friendly service and close to the train station, Christies Wine Bar offers home-cooked food seven days a week. There is also a free function room for hire and booking now for Christmas.

On the menu...
Curry night is on Wednesdays from 6pm-8pm with live music, curry and a drink for £7.95. Mexican Night is every Thursday from 6pm-9pm; two courses just £9.95, Sol lager just £1.50 per bottle.

How to book...
Christies Wine Bar, 1-3 Station Approach, Birchington CT7 9RD phone: 01843 847847 christieswinebar.webs.com



The Olive Tree
Ramada Dover

Why here...
Open seven days a week, The Olive Tree restaurant offers a range of international dishes from the à la carte menu. There are also two international themed nights: Thursday is Italian Night, with an extensive buffet of Italian dishes, while Friday is Spice Night, catering for connoisseurs of Indian food. Both nights feature 'live cooking' with a pianist playing background music.

On the menu...
Italian Night and Spice Night offers an Eat All You Can buffet with an extensive range of authentic local food. The buffet features a range of appetisers, main courses and desserts to choose from, all carefully prepared by internationally-trained chefs.

How to book...
The Olive Tree Restaurant Ramada Hotel Dover, Singledge Lane, Whitfield, Dover 01304 872845/01304 821230 reservations@ramadadover.co.uk

Chiquito
Westwood Cross

Why here...
Chiquito has a lively atmosphere with fantastic set menus throughout the week. There are classic Mexican options for a quick lunch from £5.99, or two courses from the evening menu at £9.99.

On the menu...
Nachos are perfect for sharing, as well as the margaritas, complementing the authentic Mexican favourites prepared to your taste, whether it be mild or spicy. Plus the sizzling fajitas are a favourite.

How to book...
Chiquito, Westwood Cross, Broadstairs phone: 01843 579320 www.chiquito.co.uk





Waterfront
Dover Marina

Why here...
The Waterfront restaurant at the Best Western Dover Marina Hotel overlooks the waterfront and is open seven days a week for breakfast, lunch and dinner.
The à la carte menu offers diners a range of international dishes specially selected by the head chef.
In addition to theà la carte menu, there is a table d'hote menu available for both lunch and dinner and a special two-course pensioner's lunch menu at £9.95 on Thursdays.

On the menu...
The à la carte menu features a range of appetisers, main courses and desserts that include local produce wherever possible. Sunday lunchtimes are especially popular, with the delicious Sunday carvery from £15.95 per person for two courses.

How to book...
The Waterfront Restaurant, Best Western Dover Marina Hotel and Spa, Waterloo Crescent, Dover; phone: 01304 203633; email: reservations@dovermarinahotel.co.uk



William & Brown
Whitstable

Why here...
Serves modern and traditional Spanish dishes, using the best suppliers and importers. Menus change to coincide with seasonal produce. It has a great spot in picturesque Whitstable.

On the menu...
Jamon Iberico, guindillas with anchovies, scallops with morcilla, sardinas a la plancha, Catalan honeyed chicken, beef Madrid, paella Valenciana and albóndigas with calamares are just some of the traditional dishes.

How to book...
William & Brown Tapas, 48 Harbour Street, Whitstable phone: 01227 273373

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£12 on the gate

Enquiries: Call 07513 750145
or visit our website www.dawesca.co.uk

Dawes Community Fireworks Display ltd. Raising money for the DAWES COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (Reg. Charity 1081764) in association with PHOENIX FIREWORKS.

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Music Tent

Children & Families
Guy Competition
Judging
at 4.30pm

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STOP PRESS Best Guy judged by kmfm's [illegible]

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SATURDAY 5th NOVEMBER 5.30pm

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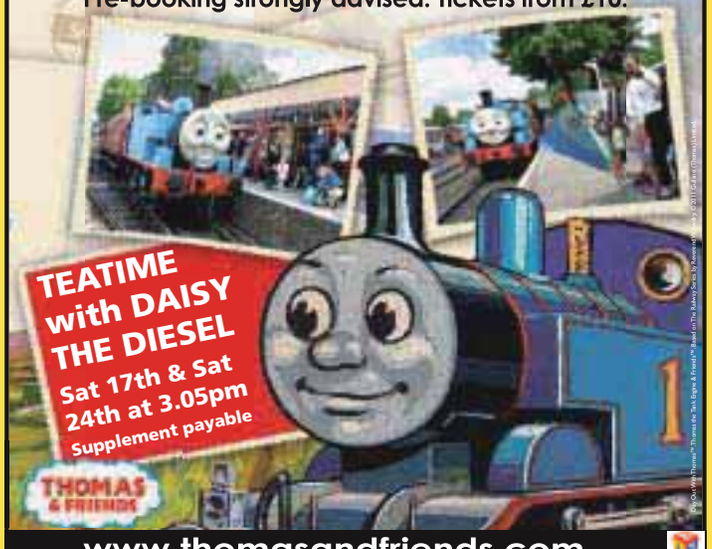
Meeting all year, Friday & Saturday at 20:00 outside Alberrys Wine Bar
See webiste for Halloween Weekend Special Tours

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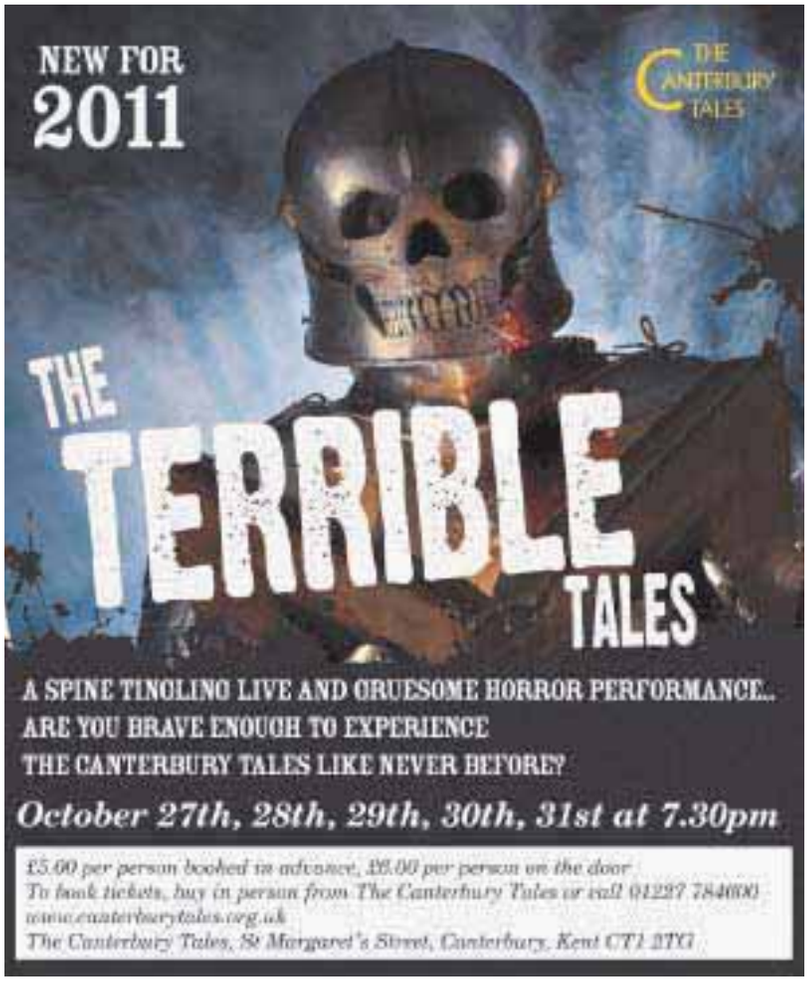
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Pre-booking strongly advised. Tickets from £10.



www.thomasandfriends.com

Book Online at www.kesr.org.uk or Tel 01580 765155



KENT AND EAST SUSSEX RAILWAY

Train rides promise to be frighteningly good fun







TAKE a spooky steam-train ride on the Halloween and Fright Night special trains at the Kent & East Sussex Railway in Tenterden.

There will be plenty of spine-tingling tricks and treats during Halloween fun week from Monday to Friday, October 24-28.

Enjoy spooktacular entertainment at Tenterden station and join in the 'make and take' activities, including the pumpkin-carving workshop. All activities are included in the ticket price. Fares are £37 for a family, £13.50 for adults, £12.50 for seniors, and £8.50 for children.

As the clock strikes 6pm on Friday, October 28, and Saturday, October 29, take a ride from Tenterden to Bodiam on the popular Fright Night Train.

Enjoy scary face-painting, activities and pumpkin-carving at Tenterden station from 4.30pm.

Be prepared to be frightened silly with ghostly goings-on at stations, a fireworks display and surprises, too. Every child will receive a delicious snack box for the all-inclusive price of £14.50. Booking is essential.

Families are encouraged to come in fancy-dress, the scarier the better.

The restaurant will remain open until 6pm and visitors can choose from delicious light meals and snacks.

For more information, visit the Kent & East Sussex Railway at www.kesr.org.uk or phone 01580 765155.



DAWES COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION CHARITY FIREWORK DISPLAY

Alien invasion at fireworks display





THE annual Dawes Community Association Charity Firework Display is again taking place in the magnificent setting of Mount Ephraim Gardens, Hernhill, near Faversham.

This year it is being held on Saturday, November 5. The Faversham Carnival Queen and her court will open the event and are also running a tombola stall.

Due to its popularity last year, a Dalek from the hit show Dr Who is making a return appearance and visitors can have their photo taken with one of TV's most iconic aliens.

Gates open at 6pm and the display starts at 7.30pm. There will be hot and cold drinks and Shepherd Neame will be running a licensed bar. Hot food is available, too.

There is disabled parking and access to the venue.

Tickets in advance are £9 and admit one adult and three children under 14. On the night they are priced at £12. To buy tickets, phone 01227 769075 or visit www.dawesca.co.uk for all ticket outlets and online booking. For any further enquiries, phone 07513 750145.

FARRIERS ARMS

Bring your own Guy along to celebration





HALLOWEEN, Guy Fawkes and fireworks are all being celebrated at The Farriers Arms, Mersham.

This beautifully-restored country pub was built in 1606 – the same year that the historical Guy Fawkes was executed after his failed attempt to blow up the Houses of Parliament.

Guests should bring along their own Guy on Saturday, November 5, for a chance to win £100 for a nominated local, non-profit-making organisation. There are three £100 prizes in all in child, youth and adult categories.

Alternatively, visitors can drink a pint of the pub brewery's own 1606 real ale at the Halloween buffet evening on Monday, October 31.



Ghost walks
Story of the headless boy

Historic Dockyard, Chatham
Until Friday, December 16
www.thedockyard.co.uk
01634 823815

AS the winter darkness draws in, The Historic Dockyard takes on an eerie atmosphere, providing the perfect backdrop for stories of history, intrigue, murder and mystery.

Visitors can join the ghost walks around the site, taking in the creepy shadows of the Commissioner's House Garden and the Victorian Ropery.
They will hear tales of strange figures seen in area, the legend of the headless drummer boy and that of the real dockyard murder.
The walks will take place on Friday evenings and are priced at £10 per person. The evening starts at 7.30pm and lasts 90 minutes. All walks must be pre-booked and pre-paid by by emailing ghostwalks@chdt.org.uk.

New arrival
Mother nilgai true to form

Howletts, Bekesbourne
Open 10am-5pm in winter
01227 721286
www.aspinallfoundation.org

KEEPERS at Howletts Wild Animal Park near Canterbury were delighted to announce the birth of a baby nilgai.
Nilgai are part of the antelope family and are found wild mainly in India. Their natural habitat consists of dry scrub and open woodland
Animal director Neil Spooner said: "Mother and calf seem to be doing very well indeed and, although they are at some risk in the wild, Howletts has a very good record of breeding them."
Visitors to Howletts can watch the young nilgai grow and develop over the next few months when they take advantage of the passport offer by which, for the standard entry price, they can return as often as they wish for free over the next 12 months.



Fun guys and gals sought
Fungus foray

Ranscombe Farm, Cuxton
Tuesday, October 25
01634 292062
www.plantlife.org.uk/ranscombe

A FREE, family-friendly fungus walk will take place in half-term week through superb woodland near Rochester.
Wildlife fans will be meeting at Ranscombe Farm Reserve for a fungus foray as part of a series of events planned by local naturalist Fred Booth and supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and Medway Council.
Explore ancient Cobham Great Wood and discover why toadstools are terrific and inkcaps are incredible.
Fungi are the secret ingredients that make woods work. They break down dead leaves and wood, returning nutrients to the soil, and even form special partnerships with trees in which the fungus provides the tree with important minerals.
The walk is from 10am-12pm and places should be booked.



Game for a laugh?
Pumpkin Day

Godinton House, Ashford
Sunday, October 30, from 11am-4pm
01233 643854
www.godinton-house-gardens.co.uk

THERE will be spooky goings-on at Godinton House and Gardens for Halloween next week.
Pumpkin Day will see a variety of family activities including the traditional carving of pumpkin lanterns, children's craft activities, a seasonal treasure hunt around the grounds of Godinton and the ever-popular scary stories in the cellars. A Harris hawk and a rare Chaco owl will be on display.
If you want to make a pumpkin pie or roast the seeds, then choose from the selection of pumpkins and gourds that will be for sale.
Godmersham Game will return with its local produce, selling venison burgers and sausages.
Tickets cost £5 for adults and £2 for children.



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Annual Passes now available from just £10

DICKENS WORLD EVENTS

NIGHT OF THE EVIL DEAD BALL

Friday 28th October

Evil dead tours from 7:00pm
Show & Ball starts at 9:30pm
Strictly over 18's

Only £15 each

GHOST TOUR & BALL
Join us for a night of freaky fun!

The evening kicks off with **'Max and The Monster Men'** who will keep you entertained with Halloween hits while you are awaiting your **'Tour of the Evil Dead'**. Once you have been transformed into garish monsters of the night, join us for our **'Halloween Ball'** in the themed Britannia Theatre complete with adult only Circus show acts.



BRITANNIA THEATRE EVENTS

Jongleurs Comedy Night
Friday 4th November
Doors open at 7.20pm • Comedians start 8.30pm
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Arrival of Father Christmas
Saturday 12th November, Free event

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Christmas Parties
Dates throughout December, from £39.50

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Johnny English Reborn (PG)	The Three Musketeers 2D (12A)
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Tin Tin 2D (PG)
Tin Tin 3D (PG)

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The Smurfs 2D (U)

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Rise of the Planet of the Apes (12A)

THE OTHER CINEMA
Super 8 (12A)

For times and films, please call the film line on **0871 22 44 007** or visit **www.odeon.co.uk**

For all Dickens World information and online bookings, go to www.dickensworld.co.uk or call 01634 890421

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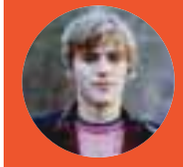
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Right Track Music Shop 01233 662682
www.ticketweb.co.uk www.seetickets.com

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£14 on the door

NEW DATE **Original tickets still valid**

New arts venue for Ashford, visit the new website:
www.revelationstmarys.co.uk
St Mary the Virgin, Churchyard, Ashford TN23 1QG

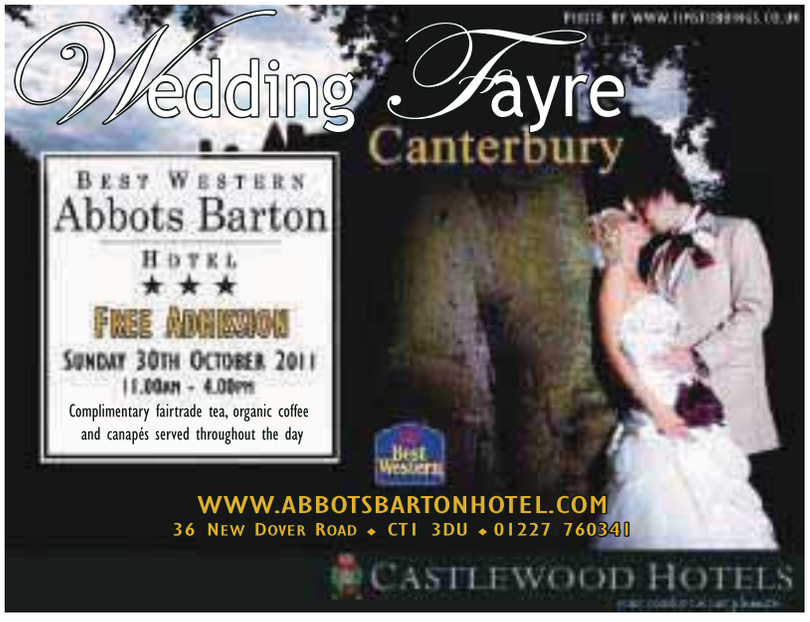
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Drama from the classroom

Teechers

Memorial Theatre, Broadstairs
Sunday, October 30, 8pm
0845 2626263

THE Platform Theatre Company returns to the Sarah Thorne Theatre Club for a production of John Godber's classroom comedy, Teechers.
The show details life at a modern comprehensive school and, using the format of an end-of-term play, invites audiences to watch a drama teacher's progress through two terms of reluctant classes, cynical colleagues and obstructive caretakers.
Watch as the main character then departs for the safer waters of a private school.
Teechers is a humorous and heart-warming play and has been described as a modern classic.
Tickets are £8 for adults and £6 for youths (Sarah Thorne Theatre Club members) and £10 for adults and £8 for youths (non-members).
Seats are bookable in advance.



Classic ballet

Is Coppelia a doll with soul?

Theatre Royal Margate
Sunday, October 23, 7.30pm
01227 787787
Adults £19, children £10

ONE of the most popular touring ballet companies heads to Margate this month with its production of world favourite Coppelia.
European Ballet can boast both international dancers and top director Stanislav Tchassov and has built a reputation for superb live classical performances.
The ballet tells the story of a romance between Swanhilda and Franz as well as that of doll-maker Coppelius, whose greatest desire is to build a doll with a soul, Coppelia.
Franz falls in love with the doll, which he thinks is alive, and the story unfolds. The production will see dancers from Russia, France, Italy, Switzerland and the UK take on the humorous ballet.

Family frolics

Simple Simon to the rescue

Winter Gardens, Margate
Wednesday, October 26, 2pm
01843 292795/296111
www.margatewintergardens.co.uk

IT is half-term and time for the latest adventure for families with Simple Simon. This year, Fairy Stardust needs Simon and his pet cat Tommy to help Sleeping Beauty in a brand-new exciting adventure.
We arrive in Storybookland to find Beauty, happily married to her prince, and having just had a beautiful baby girl.
They don't know that the evil Fairy Carabosse plans to return to kidnap the baby and in doing so force Beauty to go back to the spinning wheel, as she planned in the original story. Will Simon be able to save the day?
The show is full of song and comedy, and lucky children are selected at random to get up on the stage to take part.
Tickets are £6.





Nasty Nick in panto

Baddy and a beanstalk

Granville Theatre, Ramsgate
Friday, December 9, to Monday, January 2
www.granvilletheatre.com
01843 591750

INFAMOUS Big Brother favourite 'Nasty' Nick Bateman stars in this year's Granville Theatre Christmas panto, Jack And The Beanstalk.
The production also features the popular Frank Tucker as Dame Trott, while Kent's Nasty Nick continues his bad-boy role as Baron Fleshcreep.
Following the success of Cinderella in 2009 and Aladdin last year, director James Darnley leads another cast in what should be a magical Christmas schedule.
The story involves the hapless Jack, his beloved cow Daisy, a handful of magic beans, a larger-than-life beanstalk and a very mean giant at the top of it. Child tickets are from £10; adult tickets are from £11; and family tickets are available.







Maidstone property report

PROPERTY SPOTLIGHT ON MAIDSTONE

What makes it special
THE county town has seen recent development, especially along the River Medway waterfront, where a number of luxury apartment blocks have been constructed. Locally there are excellent shopping opportunities, bars, cafés and restaurants and close by are a number of picturesque villages. Developments reflect the town's popularity as a desirable location.

Room to improve
SOME of the outlying parts of the town are in need of regeneration, with roads getting extremely congested, especially at weekends, when this can lead to parking problems. Some of the nearby villages along the river have experienced severe flooding, but improvements in defences have largely eradicated this threat. However, it has made insurance an issue for homeowners.

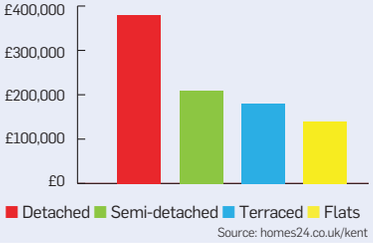
Prices
FLATS can be obtained for an average of about £126,000, but riverside apartments can be almost twice that figure. Terraced homes are about £170,000, with semi-detached houses £220,000. A detached home can be about £370,000, but this can increase, especially in some of the villages. Rents can vary according to location, with bargains of about £80 per week in some areas.



Connections
MAIDSTONE has easy access to the M2 and M20. Heathrow and Gatwick are also easily accessible with a rail link to Gatwick, via Tonbridge. High-speed trains stop in the town, making journey times to London St Pancras about 47 minutes or 20 mintues to Ashford International.

AVERAGE HOME VALUES (Oct 2011)

WHAT IS THE ZED-INDEX!
The Zed-Index! is the average home value in a given area based on our partner Zoopla Estimates. **Kent Zed-Index!** = £226,855



Source: homes24.co.uk/kent









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Email: westkent@rpcnewhomes.co.uk

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New ventures bring life to county town

MAIDSTONE is a focus for Kent's local government and administration. But it is much more than that.

The River Medway runs through the heart of the town and this area has seen some of the most prestigious new developments in recent years anywhere in the county.

Along the riverbanks have sprung up a number of top-of-the-range apartments and flats – some carefully crafted to reflect the importance of the river in the town's development, with boat stylings and shapes incorporated into the architecture.

These homes have seen an influx of well-to-do professional people, many of them young, which has led to new restaurants and bars opening their doors, making the town a more desirable place to live. New shops have also opened and the town is a thriving commercial hub.

The introduction of a high-speed train service to London St Pancras has also been a factor in making Maidstone a fixture on the property map as the rail network now complements the easy access to the country's motorway network via the M20 and M2.

Historically, the rail link, which originally did not stop in Maidstone, was a mixed blessing to the town as it brought cases of property blight.

Initially it was feared the noise would have an effect on homes, especially those in attractive locations such as Harrietsham and Hollingbourne. This led to some being put on the market at bargain prices by owners seeking to relocate to less noisy locations.

However, the problem was arguably less than expected, which led to some newcomers picking up great deals.

Another aspect, this time natural, which has affected prices in the immediate is the threat of flooding.

During heavy rainfall about a decade ago, the levels of the River Medway rose substantially, and while the town was not affected, several villages were. Some homes in Yalding and its surroundings received severe damage and householders were forced to use sandbags to protect their properties. The issue of insurance remained for several years, with premiums reflecting the risk – however, flood defences have been improved in recent years.

The area has a range of both primary and secondary schools and results at Invicta Grammar School in particular have been excellent in recent years. The Hazlitt Theatre offers regular productions and there is a thriving multi-cultural show annually.

In recent years, Madonna played a show in Mote Park, which is a popular spot for relaxation and has its own sports centre.

Nearby Leeds Castle is one of the most beautiful buildings in the world and just outside the town is a much-visited set of prehistoric standing stones – very unusual for Kent.



Ideal location for town

£195,000

A LOVELY collection of five three-bedroom houses and one two-bedroom coach house, ideally located within easy access of Maidstone town centre and the M20, situated in Bower Mews, Bower Close, Maidstone, has just come on to the market.

These properties also benefit from en-suites to the master bedrooms, fitted kitchen with hob and ovens, as well as plumbing for washing machine and dishwasher.

Externally, there are turfed rear gardens with patio areas and all homes have two allocated parking spaces, some with car-parking.

These properties would make a great first-time buy.

BUYING IN MAIDSTONE



First of three on Queens Road site

£497,000

THE first of three properties to be released on this Queens Road development, The Dell, is an impressive refurbished four-bedroom, three-bathroom, 2,300 sq ft executive home.

It has a large lounge with separate dining room, good-size kitchen/diner, conservatory and study.

There are en-suite bathrooms to both master bedroom and bedroom two, plus an extra family bathroom for a further two bedrooms.

The property also has a large double garage.



Last two left on tree-lined private drive

£550,000

ONLY two remain of these five-bedroom, three bathroom luxury family homes just off Boxley Road.

Fintonagh Drive is a tree-lined private lane leading to the imposing gated entrance to Providence Park.

On the first floor are a family bathroom and en-suites to the master and bedroom two and three further bedrooms. These properties also benefit from integral garaging and a turfed front and rear garden.

The home is in a quiet and secluded gated development close to all amenities and road and rail networks.



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£380,000

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IF you are looking for a first-time buy or an investment opportunity, The Place along Bridgeside Mews in Tovil Green is the place to be.

The last property remaining on this development is a three-bedroom end-of-terrace home.

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A turfed rear garden is also a feature.

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Sandy Lane, Addington, West Malling, Kent, ME19 5BX



Guide Price: £540,000







A stunning one off luxury 3/4 bedroom, 3 bathroom, executive family home located in a quiet lane with views over open countryside within the village of Addington, West Malling. The property benefits from easy access to the M20, junction 3/4, motorway links and West Malling mainline train station with direct routes to London

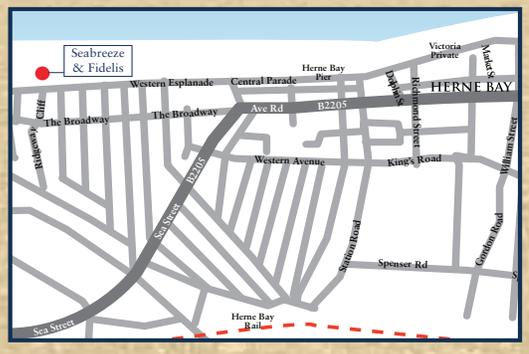
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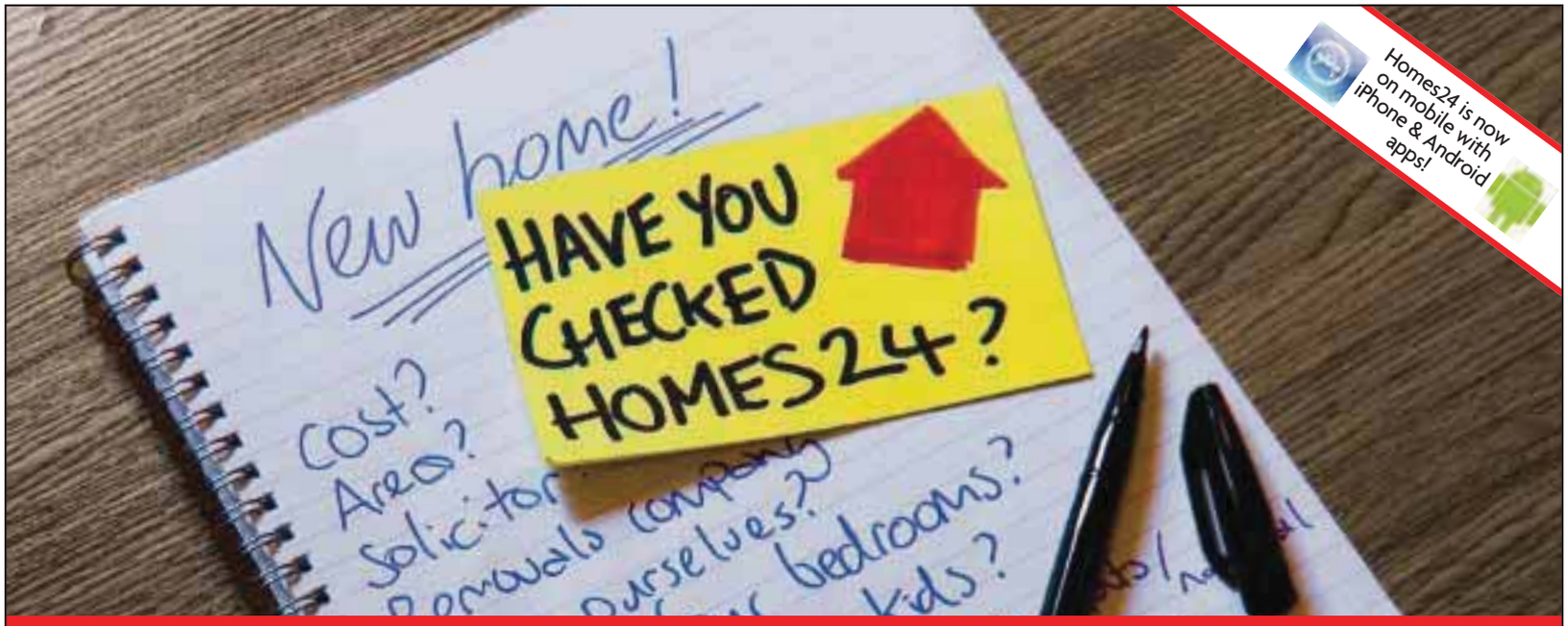


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Commencing 31st October - 4th November



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Guide: £70-78,000



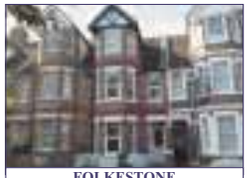
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Guide: £135-145,000





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Guide: £360-400,000



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Guide: £280-300,000



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Three Bedroom Cottage

Guide: £100-110,000



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Extensive Premises with Hardstanding
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FOLKESTONE
West End House for Improvement
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HERNE BAY
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Guide: £130-140,000



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Large Former Club with Premises
Guide: £120-130,000



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HERNE BAY
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Guide: £190-200,000



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Guide: £92-97,000



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CLIFTONVILLE

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Guide: £130-150,000



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NORTHFLEET, GRAVESEND
House for Improvement
Guide: £90-95,000



ROCHESTER

House for Modernisation

Guide: £65-75,000



DARTFORD
House for Improvement
Guide: £130-135,000



CHATHAM
Residential Investment
Guide: £80-85,000



STROOD
Shop and Flat for Investment
Guide: £110-120,000



CAPSTONE, CHATHAM
Detached House for Improvement
Guide: £150-160,000



WAINSCOTT, ROCHESTER
Semi for Improvement
Guide: £145-150,000



WIGMORE, GILLINGHAM
Detached Secluded Bungalow
Guide: £160-165,000



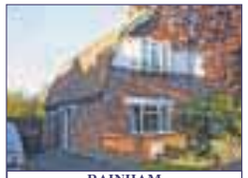
WROTHAM
Detached House with Building Plot
Guide: £340-360,000



GILLINGHAM
Commercial/Residential Investment
Guide: £95-105,000



CHATHAM
Offices & Workshop Premises
Guide: £150-160,000



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Semi with Potential Extension
Guide: £170-175,000



MAIDSTONE
30 Acres of Woodland
Guide: £95-100,000



SITTINGBOURNE
Vacant Commercial Premises
Guide: £45-48,000



SUTTON VALENCE
Commercial Yard Investment
Guide: £320-330,000



MAIDSTONE
Offices with Potential
Guide: £320-350,000



GILLINGHAM
---
3 Bed End of Terrace for Improvement

Guide: £65-75,000



ORPINGTON
Three Bedroom Semi
Guide: £130-140,000



ROCHESTER

Commercial with Potential for Conversion

Guide: £65-75,000



GRAVESEND
Four Bed End Terrace for Improvement
Guide: £115-125,000



ORPINGTON
Commercial with Potential
Guide: £105-115,000



GILLINGHAM
Pair of Fire Damaged Properties
Guide: £90-100,000



MAIDSTONE

Commercial Investment

Guide: £130-150,000



STROOD

Mid Terrace House for Improvement

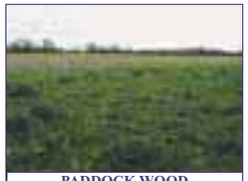
Guide: £65-70,000



GREENHITHE
Site with Potential
Guide: £80-100,000



CHATHAM
Advertising Hoarding Investment
Guide: £24-26,000



PADDOCK WOOD
14.4 Acres of Grazing Land
Guide: £45-48,000



SITTINGBOURNE
Town Centre Offices
Guide: £30-35,000



MAIDSTONE
Former Dentist Surgery
Guide: £95-100,000



CHATHAM
Large Town Centre Pub
Guide: £295-305,000

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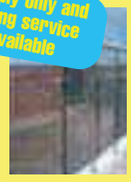
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Audi's big statement with release of stunning A6 Avant

Driving

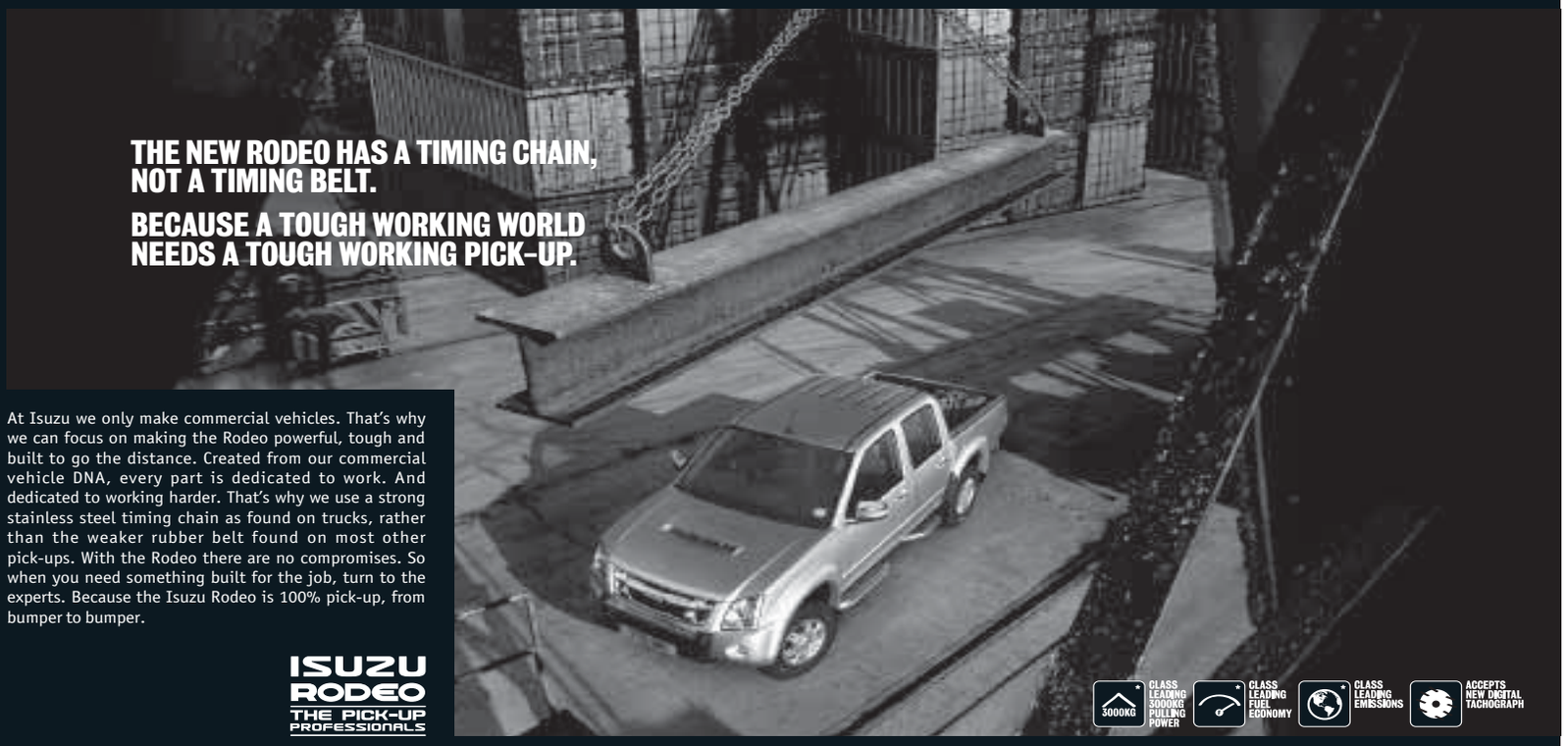
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Alfa's MiTo is the real deal

Italian marque has come up trumps with this stylish little number

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MiTo full with Alfa's DNA

By Sam Davison
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

NOT since the legendary Alfasud of the 1970s has Alfa Romeo sold such a popular small car as the current MiTo.

Even better, since launch in 2008 it has also allayed fears it will self-destruct like that corrosion- and unreliability-prone predecessor.

But it is the car's styling and the typical deep V-shape Alfa grille that seduces buyers and, unlike most rivals, it doesn't need costly add-ons to catch the eye – you can get the three-door Alfa supermini-cum-coupè look from just £12,250.

Of course, you can go mad if you wish and get the 170bhp (0-62mph in 7.4 seconds) Cloverleaf or Quadrifoglio for a not unreasonable £18,755, but our road test sought the best bangs for your bucks.

We settled on a mid-spec Sprint model (from £12,950) with the powerful yet eco-friendly 105bhp 1.4-litre MultiAir petrol engine and six-speed gearbox.

This comes with a stop-start package that curbs consumption and emissions in busy traffic yet still offers decent power (0-62mph in 11.2 seconds) and lots of driving fun from one of the most driver-pleasing small-car chassis around.

Apart from this Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde combination available to you, this car also comes with the DNA driving package that is standard on the MiTo and also fitted to the bigger but no less impressive Giulietta.

The abbreviation stands for Dynamic, Normal and All-Weather and each makes different adjustments to the power delivery, brakes, steering, suspension and gearbox.

Dynamic is the sport mode, with steering and throttle weighting up and chassis delivering maximum tautness on the road, neatly avoiding my usual beef about hot hatchbacks having to put up with rock-hard suspension all the time when you may need it only 10 per cent of the time; with Dynamic, you rattle your kidneys only when you want to.

Normal does what it says on the tin and manages economy via the start-stop and an arrow indicator on the dashboard telling you when best to change up or down.

All-Weather will get you home when conditions turn greasy or icy by toning down ill-judged steering or throttle movements and giving best grip. I have proved on previous MiTo drives that it works and, again, allays any fears that DNA is just a lot of marketing fluff.

Indeed, it is the kind of package you would expect to find on a bigger, more premium car and highlights how much kit comes as standard on MiTo models.

There is impressive tech inside, too, with the Fiat-derived Blue & Me comms and audio package that automatically synchs your phone and allows easy hook up to an iPod or MP3-player.

As you might expect, the dashboard is sporty. What you might not expect is that the fit, finish and arrangement are far superior to Alfa Romeos of old, although installing the 12v and audio Aux/USB sockets ahead of the handbrake means that you need to beware of entangling yourself in plugs and leads.

The predominantly black cabin also means that the rear seats are a bit gloomy, especially for children, who might struggle – even with booster seats – to see much.

But this is not a car you buy so much for practicality. Like its most obvious rival, the BMW Mini, it is a car you buy for image and individuality, despite a name that looks like Me Too.

MiTo is actually an abbreviation of Milano and Torino and neatly sums up the car; Milano is Italy's style capital and Alfa's home town – the city's red cross features in the brand's famous badge – while Torino is Italy's motor city and it's where this little Italian charmer is built.

ALFA ROMEO MITO MULTIAIR: PRICE £13,995



EYE CANDY: Alfa Romeo's MiTo not only looks the part but boasts some impressive technology inside, the kind you would find on more premium motors

FACT FILE

Image:	★★★★★
Space:	★★★
Value:	★★★★★
Reliabilty:	★★★★
How green?:	★★★★
Road tax:	£115/year
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First GEAR

MOTORING NEWS



Generation VI BMW due soon

BMW has announced prices (from £21,400) for the sixth-generation 3-Series.

It will launch in February with four engine choices, include an eight-speed auto gearbox option and, eventually, offer all-wheel drive and hybrid versions. BMW says it will expand its already big appeal to business users through extra fuel-saving technologies.



Miserly magic from Octavia

SKODA'S Octavia GreenLine II eco star eked out the Best Family Car award in Fleet World magazine's annual MPG Marathon.

The Skoda returned 85.98mpg on a 370-mile two-day course, beating its official combined cycle fuel economy of 74.3mpg by 15.7 per cent. It was beaten into third place overall by a Suzuki Swift supermini – a Smart was first.



Veloster to be a coupè star

AMBITIOUS Hyundai launches an innovative coupè in February.

With rear-seat access via a single door on the pavement side, the Veloster (from £17,995) should be as practical as it is eye-catching. And lively, with a 138bhp 1.6-litre four-cylinder petrol engine, plus six-speed manual or Hyundai's first dual-clutch auto gearbox, and averaging almost 50mpg.

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SAAB 9-3 1.8T Vector Sport, 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Petrol, 2004 54 Reg, 97,807 miles, Metallic Silver, 2 Owners. Full Service History, ABS, Alloy wheels, Cruise control, Front armrest, Folding rear seats, Immobiliser, Passenger airbag, Rear armrest, Side airbags, Radio/CD, Rear headrest, Sports seats, Traction control, Partial leather seat trim, Reverse parking aid, Solid Paint, Space saver spare wheel, 3x3 point rear seat belts, Alarm, Body coloured bumpers, Drivers airbag, Electric door mirrors, Isofix child seat anchor points, PAS, Rear electric windows, Remote central locking, Service indicator, Steering wheel rake adjustment, Steering wheel reach adjustment, Trip computer. Insurance Group:12 **£3,995**

SAAB 9-3 2.0T SE , 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 2001 51 Reg , 104,462 miles, Blue, 2 Owners. ABS, Alloy wheels, Central locking, Cruise control, Headlight washers, Folding rear seats, Immobiliser, Passenger airbag, Rear armrest, Side airbags, Radio/CD, Audio remote control, 3x3 point rear seat belts, Alarm, Body coloured bumpers, Drivers airbag, Electric door mirrors, Front electric windows, Front fog lights, Front head restraints, Heated door mirrors, Isofix child seat anchor points, PAS, Rear electric windows, Steering wheel reach adjustment, Trip computer, Rear wiper. Insurance Group:13E, **£1,995**

2001 Y Reg SAAB 9-5 2.3 HOT AERO, 5 Doors, Manual, Estate, Petrol, 143,150 miles, metallic silver, ABS, Alloy wheels, Cruise control, Front armrest, Headlight washers, Folding rear seats, Immobiliser, Passenger airbag, Rear armrest, Roof rails, Radio/CD/Cassette, Side airbags, Rear headrests, Traction control, Audio remote control, Body coloured bumpers, Drivers airbag, Electric door mirrors, Front electric windows, Front fog lights, Front head restraints, Heated door mirrors, Height adjustable drivers seat, PAS, Rear electric windows, Remote central locking, Steering wheel reach adjustment, Trip computer. Insurance Group:17A **£1,695**

OTHER MAKES

MAZDA CX-7 2.3T, 5 Doors, Manual, Petrol, 2007 57 Reg, 28,950 miles, Metallic Silver, 1 Owner. ABS, Alloy wheels, Cruise control, Headlight washers, Folding rear seats, Lumber support, Immobiliser, Passenger airbag, Rear armrest, Side airbags, Radio/CD Multichanger, Rear headrests, Traction control, Solid Paint, Electrically adjustable drivers seat, Heated front seat, Space saver spare wheel, Audio remote control, 3x3 point rear seat belts, Alarm, Body coloured bumpers, Drivers airbag, Electric door mirrors, Front electric windows, Front fog lights, Front head restraints, Heated door mirrors, Isofix child seat anchor points, PAS, Rear electric windows, Remote central locking, Steering wheel rake adjustment, Trip computer, Height adjustable drivers seat, Leather seat trim, Rear wiper. Insurance Group:15. **£9,895**

FORD Focus 1.6 Style , 5 Doors, Automatic, Hatchback, Petrol, 2008 58 Reg , 8,000 miles, BLUE, 1 Owner. Adjustable steering column/wheel, Anti theft system, Central locking, Colour coding - Body, Computer, Driver airbag, Electric mirrors, Electric windows, Foglights, Full Service History, Head restraints, Folding rear seats, Park distance control, Remote locking, Body coloured bumpers, Front fog lights, PAS, Remote central locking, Rear wiper, ABS, Air conditioning, Side airbags, Radio/CD, Steel wheels, Cloth seat trim, Space saver spare wheel, Audio remote control, Solid Paint. Insurance Group:6, LOW MILEAGE. **£7,595**

BMW 118d SE , 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Diesel, 2005 05 Reg , 78,435 miles, Grey, 3 Owners. ABS, Alloy wheels, Front armrest, Folding rear seats, Immobiliser, Passenger airbag, Side airbags, Radio/CD, Rear headrests, Traction control, Cloth seat trim, Audio remote control, 3x3 point rear seat belts, Alarm, Drivers airbag, Electric door mirrors, Front electric windows, Front fog lights, PAS, Service indicator, Steering wheel rake adjustment, Steering wheel reach adjustment, Trip computer, Height adjustable drivers seat, Rear wiper, Solid Paint, Reverse parking aid. Insurance Group:11, **£7,195**

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Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the Škoda range: Urban 19.2 (14.7) – 68.9 (4.1), Extra Urban 36.2 (7.8) – 94.2 (3.0), Combined 27.7 (10.2) – 83.1 (3.4). CO2 emissions for the Škoda range 237 – 89g/km.

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Used Cars

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* **09 Plate. Skoda Fabia 2 1.2 Htp 12v (70BHP) 5- Dr Hatchback** Brilliant silver metallic, 19,500 miles. **£6,995**
* **08 Plate. Skoda Fabia 2 1.4 16v (85 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback** Satin grey metallic, 27,000 miles. **£6,995**
* **11 Plate. Skoda Faboa 1.2 (70 BHP) SE 5Dr Hatchback** Silver metallic, 6,900 miles, manual. **£8,995**
* **10 Plate. Skoda Octavia 2.0 TDi CR vRS 5-Dr** Black Magic Metallic Manual Diesel with multi-colour velour-leather interior 20,500 miles. **£14,995**
* **05 Plate. Skoda Fabia 1.2 Htp (54 BHP) Classic 5-Dr Hatchback** Blue storm metallic, 39,000 miles. **£3,995**
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* **04 Plate. Skoda Fabia 1.4 16v Classic 4-dr Saloon** Black magic metallic, 45,700 miles. **£3,295**
* **05 Plate. Skoda Octavia 2.0 FSI Elegance 5-Dr Hatchback** Metallic Graphite Grey, 48.700 miles, manual, petrol. **£5,495**
* **09 Plate. Skoda Fabia 1 1.2 HTP 6V (60 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback Metallic Satin Grey, 12,400 miles, manual, petrol. £6,495**
* **07 Plate. Skoda Superb 1.9 TDI PD 100 Classic 4-Dr Saloon** Metallic Brilliant Silver, 38,700 miles, manual, diesel. **£8,995**
* **08 Plate. Skoda Superb 2.0 TDI CR Elegance (170 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback** Metallic Steel Grey, 14,500 miles, manual, diesel. **£15,995**

Demo Cars

* **11 Plate. Skoda Fabia 1.2 SE Hatchback** **£8,995 ex demo**
* **10 Plate. Skoda Fabia 1.2 TSi SE 12v Hatchback** **£8,995 ex demo**
* **10 Plate. Skoda Fabia 1.6 Level 2 TDi** Satin Grey, 7,700 miles.* **£9,995 ex demo**
* **10 Plate. Skoda Fabia 1.6 SE TDi CV 5-Dr Hatchback** **£9,995 ex demo**
* **11 Plate. Skoda Roomster 1.6 TDi** **£11,995 ex demo**
* **11 Plate. Skoda Fabia Auto 1.4 TSi VRS 5-Dr Hatchback** **£13,495 ex demo**

Other Makes

* **06 Plate. Fiat Grande Punto 1.3 16v Multijet 90 Dynamic 3-Dr** Metallic Green, 44,500 miles, manual, diesel. **£4,995**
* **09 Plate. Suzuki SX4 1.6 SZ4 4-Door Saloon** Red Metallic Manual Petrol 39,080 miles. **£7,995**
* **03 Plate. Toyota Corolla 1.8 WTL IT Sport 5-dr** Silver steel metallic, 69,000 miles **£4,995**
* **05 Plate. Street Ka 1.6 Luxury 2-dr Convertible** Red hot, 33,500 miles **£3,995**
* **04 Plate. Fiat Panda 1.2 Eleganza 5-dr Hatchback Import** Yellow, 73,500 miles. **£2,795**
* **04 Plate. Citreon Xsara Picasso 1.8 Desire 5-Dr MPV Metallic Artic Steel, 37,500 miles, manual, petrol. £3,795**
* **04 Plate. Volkswagen Polo 1.4 TDI Twist 5-Dr** Metallic Reflex Silver, 85,900 miles, manual, diesel. **£3,495**
* **09 Plate. Volvo C70 2.0 D Sport Premium 2-Dr Convertible** Pearl Metallic Celestial Blue, 12,317 miles, automatic, diesel. **£16,995**

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Avant no7 takes Audi A6 further forward

1ST DRIVE

By Sam Davison
editorial@archant.co.uk

IT says much for Audi's design and engineering strength that despite a six- to seven-year production life, some of its cars seem to be axed long before their time is up.

Indeed, the previous A4 was recently repackaged as the Exeo range, for Spanish sister brand Seat.

Maybe the previous A6 faces a similar rebirth? It certainly didn't seem ready to be dropped, and yet the UK's premium-car sector leader has done just that and taken its mid-range star even higher.

And the newly-launched A6 estate version – or Avant, to use Audi-speak – is now almost as important as the saloon, being set to account for some 43 per cent of UK sales, costing £1,840 more than the booted version and starting at £32,100.

This the seventh generation in this style, if you include the Audi 100 Avant series that preceded the A6 badge in 1994, and is arguably the most handsome executive estate on the market. It has an even more upmarket cabin than before, more headroom and shoulder room and has gone backwards in only one interior dimension – a paltry 1mm reduction in luggage compartment width.

Admittedly, it is longer than its obvious rivals – the BMW 5-Series Touring and Mercedes-Benz Estate – and actually has less maximum load capacity than the Merc, but it is markedly lighter thanks to some 20 per cent aluminium in the bodywork.

Even at launch it offers an impressive choice of eco-friendly engines, with 16 per cent better CO_2 emissions overall against the old car and up to 16 per cent better average fuel consumption.

The latter figure applies to the front-wheel drive 2.0TDI diesel expected to sweep up 75 per cent of sales to business users – who, coincidentally, also account for 75 per cent of all A6 sales – but all versions I have driven offer big advantages against previous equivalents.

Two trim options are offered currently: SE includes 17-inch alloys, cruise control, twin-zone climate control, the Audi drive select – allowing the driver to customise how he/she wants the car and powertrain to behave – sat-nav, parking sensors, leather seats and Bluetooth connectivity, but just £2,350 more buys the prestigious S-Line package with 18-inch alloys, sports suspension, electric seats, headlight washers and fancy cosmetics.

What all this tells you in short is that most reasonable options are standard. There is also the option to add Audi's Quattro all-wheel-drive system, attracting a third of all UK A6 buyers.

On the road, all models impress; I enjoyed the nimbleness and willingness of the turbocharged 3.0 petrol model, but today's real-world motoring means it will attract just 2 per cent of sales.

Most buyers want the low-down power-plus economy of the impressive diesels, even if they deaden the A6's on-road élan slightly.

The junior diesel model deserves to be the best-seller by far, delivering what most buyers need, but the 3.0-litre diesel versions offer more sportiness for little more fuel consumption thanks to that light and aerodynamic body.

The car's slipperiness undoubtedly adds to its luxury-car refinement and there is very little road noise, either.

Full marks are also due for retention of the old car's superb grip and handling while improving ride quality and comfort, which allows relaxed motorway cruising and adventurous driving on challenging roads.

As the Avant name suggests, this sporting estate is another major step forward for the German brand.



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*Price shown is for Savvy Style 1.2 MT; manufacturer's list price £7,995 excluding metallic paint which is an option at £365. On the road price includes VAT, delivery, number plates, 12 months' road fund licence and first registration fee. ‡Warranty is subject to maintenance in accordance with manufacturer's schedules, 3 year or 60,000 miles. Terms and conditions apply. ^FREE servicing on Proton vehicles registered from 22nd September 2011 until 31st October 2011 and available for the first owner only.

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Official Government fuel consumption figures (Range): Urban cycle, Extra urban, Combined (litres per 100km/mpg) & CO_2 emissions (g/km); Highest: Citroën C3 VTi 120 AUTOMATIC Exclusive 9.4/30.0, 5.0/56.4, 6.6/42.8, 153. Lowest: Citroën C3 e-HDi 90 AIRDREAM MANUAL VTR+ 93g 4.2/67.3, 3.2/88.3, 3.6/78.5, 93.

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Motability

This life-changing revolution

MOTABILITY has radically changed the way disabled people and their families can live.

The Government-backed scheme enables them to get on the road for much less than it would cost them to buy or lease a new or nearly-new car privately, and helps them with potentially costly adaptations for controls or wheelchair access.

On top of that, the scheme's regular payments can take care of everyday running costs; from insurance, maintenance and repairs to breakdown assistance – a huge reassurance when the cost of motoring is soaring.

What is more, Motability does not insist the disabled person is the driver; the car is made available for the benefit of that person, and that means up to two other named drivers can be on the car's insurance cover instead of the disabled person.

■ **For more about this liberating scheme, see inside this special supplement.**





THIS LIBERATING EXPERIENCE: Thanks to Motability, car-buyers with disabilities have the same range of choices as any able-bodied person, from the practicality of the capacious Kia Sedona people-carrier, above left, to the stylish and luxurious Hyundai i40 Tourer, right, which has just entered the market

You can afford a new car with **nil advance payment***



Dual Fuel from £899.00 deposit

GEN·2 ecologic



Available from NIL deposit

Persona



Available from NIL deposit

Savvy

Contact Express Garage on **01227 364 077**

for retail prices please visit www.proton.co.uk

*NIL deposit on selected models only, please visit www.motability.co.uk for latest prices.

Motability
The leading car scheme for disabled people

Get a brand new car with breakdown cover and insurance included.

For more information visit **www.motability.co.uk** or call **0800 953 4002**







ECO WINNERS

Even with the savings from the Motability scheme, many customers want to slash running costs and here are three eco winners to consider:

1) The diesel version of the Suzuki Swift supermini came second in the annual mpg marathon this month with an average of 86mpg.

2) The all-new Kia Picanto was voted What Car? magazine's green supermini of the year.

3) Hyundai's miserly i20 Blue supermini is exempt from road tax because it emits less than 100g/km of CO_2

Key points of a Motability contract

- **Who qualifies?:** You do if you get the War Pensioners' Mobility Supplement or the higher rate of the mobility component of Disability Living Allowance (DLA). Even if you do not drive yourself, you can apply for a car as a passenger and propose two other people as your drivers. You can also apply for a car on behalf of a child aged three or over who is entitled to the higher-rate mobility component of Disability Living Allowance.
- **Tax disc:** Every year, about 10 days before the tax disc expires, a new one is sent for the coming year, along with a copy of the Motability Ontrack bulletin.
- **Service appointments:** Whenever a car's service is due (this varies for each car and might be every year or at a certain mileage point), the dealer contacts the customer to arrange for the work.
- **Renewal:** About three months before the end of the contract, customers get a renewal pack to remind them to choose a new car and highlight a selection of the best deals around.
- **MOT:** The dealer contacts the customer two months before the end of the contract to arrange the car's MOT test; most cars sail through without problems, but Motability pays for the test and any repairs needed due to general wear and tear.
- **Hand back and collection:** The dealer arranges for customers to collect their new car at the same place and day as they hand back the old.
- **Lifestyle:** Motability's free quarterly magazine for all customers goes out in February, May, August and November.

HYUNDAI NEW THINKING. NEW POSSIBILITIES.

Motability offers from Motorline



i10 Active 1.2 Auto
£NIL ADVANCE PAYMENT



i20 Comfort 1.4 CRDi Manual
£NIL ADVANCE PAYMENT



i30 Comfort 1.6 CRDi Auto
£NIL ADVANCE PAYMENT

Motorline Hyundai Canterbury
Units 2b & 2c, Westminster Road, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1YY
Tel: 01227 817555 www.motorlinehyundai-canterbury.co.uk

Motorline Hyundai Maidstone
Birchol Road, Parkwood, Maidstone, Kent ME15 9YN
Tel: 01622 624070 www.motorlinehyundai-maidstone.co.uk

Savings quoted are against Manufacturers Recommended Retail Prices (exc. on the road costs). All new Hyundais include a 5 year Triple Care unlimited mileage Warranty, See www.hyundai.co.uk/owners/5 year warranty for more details. Offer applies to new iLoad ordered and registered by 31st October 2011. Model shown for illustration purposes only.

WORRY-FREE MOTORING ASSURED

With a new Motability car, all this is included

- Use your mobility allowance
- Breakdown recovery
- Road tax and insurance
- Servicing and maintenance
- 60,000 mileage allowance
- Specialist advice

Motability
The leading car scheme for disabled people

Not sure if you qualify for a Motability car? Call 0800 953 4002

www.motability.co.uk

NO ADVANCE PAYMENT

SUZUKI Way of life!



SUZUKI ALTO

- MP3/WMA compatible CD tuner
- ABS with EBD
- Front and side airbags

SZ4 models include:
- Front fog lamps
- ESP
- Alloy Wheels

1.0 PETROL ENGINE
- LOW CO2 EMISSIONS
- LOW FUEL CONSUMPTION



SUZUKI SWIFT

- Available in 3 and 5 door
- Available in petrol and diesel
- MP3/WMA compatible CD tuner
- USB port
- Front, side, curtain, driver's knee airbags
- ESP*

SZ3† & SZ4†† Models Include
- Alloy wheels†
- Front fog lamps††
- Keyless start††
- Engine start button††
- Bluetooth technology††



SUZUKI SPLASH

- Front and side airbags
- Air conditioning
- ESP*

SZ3† & SZ4†† Models Include
- Alloy wheels†
- Front fog lamps††
- Privacy glass†

CHOICE OF PETROL ENGINES
- AIR CONDITIONING
- POWER STEERING

Tunbridge Wells Suzuki

Dowding Way, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 3UY

01892 458301 www.tunbridgewells.suzuki.co.uk

Official fuel consumption figures for the Suzuki Range: Extra Urban 74.3=38.2mpg (3.8-7.4/100km). Urban 51.4-25.0mpg (5.5-11.3/100km). Combined 64.2-32.1mpg (4.4-8.8/100km) CO2 emissions 103-205g/km

Models shown for illustration purposes only.

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The leading car scheme for disabled people

Get a brand new car with breakdown cover and insurance included.

For more information visit **www.motability.co.uk** or call **0800 953 4002**

HYUNDAI NEW THINKING. NEW POSSIBILITIES.

AFFORD ABILITY

UEFA EURO2012 POLAND-UKRAINE



HYUNDAI i30 COMFORT 1.6 CRDi AUTO
for nil advance payment

HYUNDAI ix20 CLASSIC 1.4
for nil advance payment
Car shown ix20 Active 1.6 auto for £199 advance payment

AWARDS 2011 which? www.which.co.uk Best Car Manufacturer

BEST BUY which? www.which.co.uk Hatchbacks July 2011

Motability PREMIER PARTNER

Worry-free means everything is included

- Use your mobility allowance
- Breakdown recovery
- Road tax and insurance
- Servicing and maintenance
- 60,000 mileage allowance
- Specialist advice

WORRY-FREE MOTORING ASSURED

Motability
www.motability.co.uk

Not sure if you qualify for a Motability car? Call 0800 953 4002

Tunbridge Wells Hyundai 01892 520026

Unit 1, Dowding Way, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 3UY www.tunbridgewells-hyundai.co.uk

Models featured: (1) Hyundai i30 Comfort 1.6 CRDi auto in Continental Silver metallic paint with nil advance payment. (2) Hyundai ix20 Active 1.6 auto in Ice Blue metallic paint with £199 advance payment. To qualify for the Motability offer you must be in receipt of the Higher Rate Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance or War Pensioners' Mobility Supplement. Offers are subject to acceptance of Motability application. Available for the new application in the period 1 October to 31 December 2011. The Motability Contract Hire Scheme is administered by Motability Operations Limited (Registered Company No. 1373876), City Gate House, 22 Southwark Bridge Road, London, SE1 9HB. Full written details, including terms and conditions, of the Motability Scheme are available on request from Motability. Please note 60,000 miles over 3 years are allowed on the Motability Contract Hire Scheme.

Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai ix20 range: Urban 34.0 (8.3) - 60.1 (4.7), Extra Urban 51.4 (5.5) - 67.3 (4.2), Combined 43.6 (6.5) - 65.7 (4.3), CO_2 Emissions 154 - 114 g/km. Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai i30 Comfort 1.6 CRDi auto: Urban 40.4 (7.0), Extra Urban 56.5 (5.0), Combined 49.6 (5.7), CO_2 Emissions 150 g/km.

DID YOU KNOW?

UP TO two nominated drivers can drive a Motability scheme vehicle, but the disabled person qualifying for the scheme does not have to be one of them. Under the terms of the scheme, the car simply has to be used for the benefit of the disabled person, such as a shopping trip or collecting a prescription – they don't even have to be in the car.

A third insured driver can be added for a small additional sum, but the named-driver list can be varied quickly via a phone call.

THE scheme offers some 300 adaptations to make driving, or travelling, easier and more comfortable, and many of the most popular modifications are free when fitted at the start of the lease. For a free copy of Your Guide To Adaptations, visit www.motability.co.uk or phone 0800 093 1000.

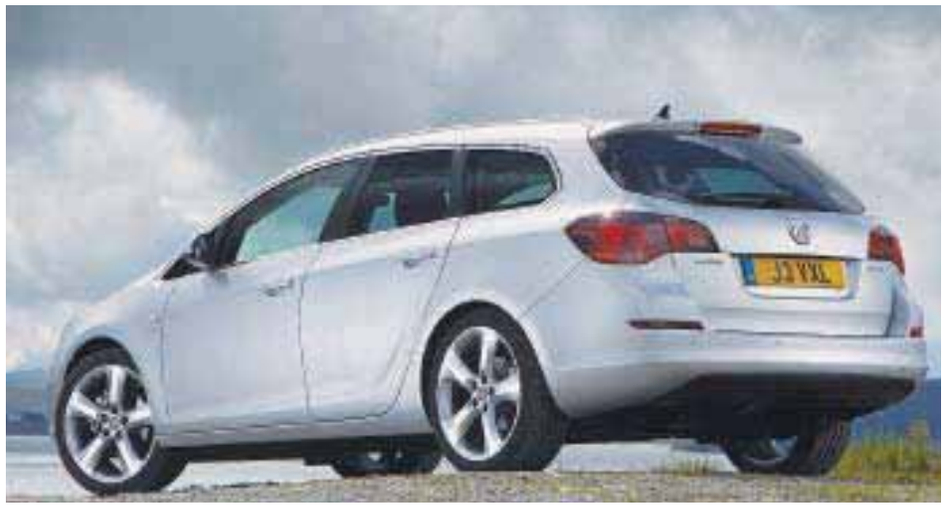
A RECENT innovation allows customers who have driven fewer than 15,000 miles by the end of their agreement to now extend the lease.

There is also a £250 Good Condition Bonus, Motability's way of saying 'thank you' to customers for looking after a car.

MOTABILITY has supplied some three million cars over more than 30 years to deliver more independence to the disabled and their families. Unfortunately, some people abuse the system, but Motability does take action on reports where the disabled person gets little or no benefit from the car; over the past year, more than 800 people have been removed from the scheme altogether and a further 500 prevented from joining or renewing.

MOTABILITY surveys some 600 customers twice-yearly to check that their leasing experience matches expectations.

For the past three years the organisation has achieved an overall satisfaction rating of 97 per cent and scooped three wins at the Top 50 Call Centres For Customer Service awards.







EASY DOES IT: Need space with style? Then Vauxhall's Astra Sports Tourer, left, fits the bill, while its Meriva, bottom left, offers big benefits to disabled users with wide-opening doors front and back. If you want compact with easy access, check out Suzuki's SX4, below.



NEW MICRA 1.2 ACENTA

- 15" alloy wheels
- Air conditioning
- 60/40 split folding and tumble rear seats
- Electronic stability programme
- Bluetooth® phone integration

NIL
Advance Payment*



NOTE 1.6 n-tec AUTO

- Nissan Connect
- 16" Alloy wheels
- Rear privacy glass
- Climate control
- Electronic stability programme

NIL
Advance Payment*

Worry-free means everything is included

- Use your mobility allowance
- Breakdown recovery
- Road tax and insurance
- Servicing and maintenance
- 60,000 mileage allowance
- Specialist advice

WORRY-FREE MOTORING ASSURED

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www.motability.co.uk

Not sure if you qualify for a Motability car? Call 0800 953 4002



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Westminster Road, Canterbury CT1 1YY
Tel: 0844 858 4108
www.baileys.nissan.co.uk

Opening hours 9.00-5.30 Monday to Friday,
9.00-5.30 Saturday and 10.00-4.00 Sunday

NISSAN

SHIFT_ the way you move

Fuel economy figures for the NEW MICRA 1.2 ACENTA 5 DOOR mpg (L/100km). Urban - 46.3 (6.1), Extra Urban - 65.7 (4.3), Combined - 56.5 (5.0), CO_2 emissions 115 g/km. NOTE 1.6 AUTO n-tec 5 DOOR Urban - 31.7 (8.9), Extra Urban - 50.4 (5.6), Combined - 41.5 (6.8), CO_2 emissions 159 g/km.

*Nil advance payment applies to New Micra 1.2 Acenta. Nil advance payment applies to Note 1.6 n-tec. Models subject to availability. Written details available on request. The facilities offered are for the hire (bailment) of goods. To qualify for this offer you must be in receipt of the Higher Rate Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance. This is a trademark of Motability, registered charity 299745.

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with Rory Jackson

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with Scott Elvis

3 course meal & ent £19.95 per person



NEW YEAR'S EVE

Live music with Paul Doody, winner of 1996 Stars in their Eyes!!

3 COURSE MEAL, ENTERTAINMENT & GLASS OF CHAMPAGNE - £24.95 PER PERSON!



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